

ARMY



NAVY

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AND VOLUNTEER
FORCES.

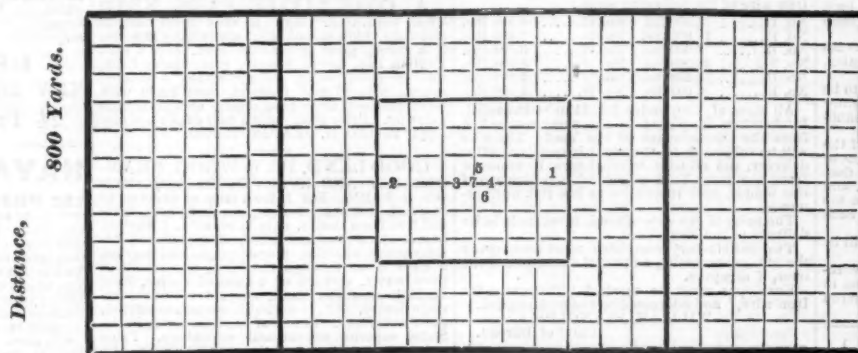
VOLUME XII.—NUMBER 11.
WHOLE NUMBER 883.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1874.

SIX DOLLARS PER YEAR.
SINGLE COPIES, FIFTEEN CENTS.

REMINGTONS' CHALLENGE LONG RANGE BREECH-LOADING TARGET RIFLE.

No. 1. Diagram of First target made by Henry Fulton, Civil Engineer, Lieut. 12th Regt. N.Y.S.N.G., of Brooklyn, at Montreal, Can., Aug. 14, 1874, with a "REMINGTON BREECH-LOADING LONG RANGE CHALLENGE RIFLE," 34 in. barrel, 44-100 calibre, wt. 10 lbs. cartridge, containing 90 grains powder, 550 grains bullet. Price of rifle \$100, including pistol grip stock, vernier gauge orthoptic, and wind gauge fore sights; extra for spirit level, \$5; extra for disks for fore sight, \$2.50 each; cartridges, \$4.50 per 100.



"Remington ahead at long range. I have taken one first and one second prize to-day at 800 and 900 yards. In one match I made a clean string of seven bull's eyes; and in another fifty-four out of a possible fifty-six; and am ahead for the aggregate. Canfield took second and Omand fourth prize in one match at 800 yards. Three of the first four prizes taken by Remington rifles. To-morrow we shoot the small-bore championship match." (Signed) HENRY FULTON.

Extract from "Army and Navy Journal" Official Report, dated Oct. 3d, 1874.

"The match decides several disputed points, as near as they can be decided: first, that there is no perceptible difference in accuracy between breech-loaders and muzzle-loaders, but that if anything the former are the best, as they are certainly the quickest; second, that in our clear climate we may look for even better shooting in the future; third, that the Remington rifle stands at the head of all others for accuracy, as it does in simplicity of mechanism. The Remington rifles in the match scored thirteen points ahead of the same number of muzzle-loaders, and twenty-two points ahead of the Sharp's breech-loaders in the same team."

In the International match, six muzzle-loaders, three Remington, and three other breech-loaders were used. Lieut. Fulton, Col. Bodino, and L. L. Hepburn used the three Remingtons.

For full official report, see ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, Oct. 3d, 1874.

Remington Sporting and Hunting Rifles on the same system as above Target Rifle.

RIM AND CENTRE FIRE		54 to 12 lbs.
44 in. 22, \$34 00	32, 38, 44, 45, 46, 50-100 calibre	\$32 00
26 " 22, \$34 00	" " " " " "	32 00
28 " " " " " "	" " " " " "	34 00
30 " " " " " "	" " " " " "	36 00
32 " " " " " "	" " " " " "	38 00
34 " " " " " "	" " " " " "	40 00
"DEER" Rifles, round barrels, 24 in., 46-100 calibre, rim fire, 64 lbs.		38 00
Buffalo " " " " " " " " " " " "	30 " 50-100 " " " " " "	30 00
Extra for Globe and Peep Sights		\$5 00
" " Set Triggers		2 50
" " Swivels and Sling		2 00
" " Fancy Stocks		4 00
" " For over 12 lbs. weight, per lb.		1 00
Sheepskin covers		3 00
Bag Leather " "		3 00
Canvass " "		2 50
Rubber " "		2 00
Stiff Russet Leather Cases		6 00
Black Walnut " "		\$7 50 to 15 00
Mahogany " "		10 00 to 20 00
Rosewood " "		15 00 to 30 00

By a careful examination of the records (see this paper May 23d to date,) it will be seen that the above Rifle stands over 23 per cent. ahead up to date in the average of all the Long Range matches that have taken place this year, and winner of Eleven (11) out of Fourteen (14) first prizes, including the "Remington Diamond," "Amateur Club" and "Amateur Club Long Range" badges—having made the best scores ever made at "Creedmoor."

Infantry, Cavalry, and Navy Rifles, Carbines and Pistols, Same System.

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Boys' size	No. 30 gauge 28 in. 44 lbs.	\$23 50
Men's " "	" 16 " 26 " 6 " "	23 50
" " "	" 16 " 30 " 64 " "	23 50
" " "	" 14 and 16 " 30 to 32, 64 to 64 lbs.	
Breech Loading Double Guns. Decarbonized Steel Barrels		Damascus barrels, \$55 00 to 80 00
" " " " " " " " " " " "		45 00
" " " " " " " " " " " "		60 00
" " " " " " " " " " " "		75 00

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Geo. H. Chapman, Washington, April 23, 1874.
Webster's Dictionary is the Standard authority for printing in this Office, and has been for the last four years.—A. M. CLAPP, Congressional Printer.

Warmly recommended by Bancroft, Prescott, Motley, Geo. P. Marsh, Halleck, Whittier, Willis, Saxe, Elihu Burritt, Daniel Webster, Rufus Choate, and the best American and European scholars.

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Send for specimen copy—free.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, BUREAU OF EQUIPMENT AND RECRUITING, WASHINGTON, October 19, 1874.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED at this Bureau until 10 o'clock A.M. of November 14, 1874, for the delivery at the U. S. Navy Yard, Boston, Mass., within four months after date of award, at such times and in such quantities as may be designated by the Commandant of the Navy Yard, of 77,300 pounds of the best iron wire of the following sizes:

No. 11.....	2,500 lbs.	No. 17.....	4,500 lbs.
No. 12.....	14,000 lbs.	No. 18.....	7,000 lbs.
No. 13.....	1,000 lbs.	No. 19.....	3,500 lbs.
No. 14.....	23,000 lbs.	No. 20.....	3,000 lbs.
No. 15.....	5,500 lbs.	No. 21.....	2,800 lbs.
No. 16.....	6,000 lbs.	No. 22.....	2,500 lbs.

All sizes of wire under No. 14 to be annealed. Information in regard to the same can be had from the Commandant of the Yard. The wire will be subjected to the usual inspection, after delivery, and all wire rejected must be removed from the Navy Yard at the risk and expense of the bidder, and it will be at his risk until removed.

The price of the wire offered, must include its delivery at the Navy Yard.
Two satisfactory securities must accompany the bid, guaranteeing a faithful execution of the offer, if accepted.

Envelopes must be marked "Proposals for Iron-wire," and addressed to the undersigned.
WILLIAM REYNOLDS,
Chief of Bureau.

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A SNUG HOME IN THE COUNTRY for \$500. For a poor man. Cottage House, 4 finished rooms, papered, but needs painting, 2 acres of land, good well of water, healthy location. Plenty of work on adjoining farms. House insured for \$350. Price only \$500. \$350 cash. A man of small means struggling to live in the city, will find an independent life opening to him here. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN.

A SHORT DRIVE FROM THE WASHINGTON Mountain, in Princeton, a good FARM OF 54 ACRES, 8 in heavy growth wood, will cut 250 cords and 100,000 feet lumber, good productive land, not rocky, cuts 12 tons No. 1 English hay, keeps 4 cows and horse, 75 apple, pear, peach and cherry trees, also grapes and berries. A trout brook flows through the farm, the land is particularly adapted to the cultivation of early vegetables, and its nearness to the city of Worcester makes it particularly desirable as a vegetable farm. Cottage house of 5 finished rooms, painted and papered. Barn 40x30 in good repair, pleasantly located, among desirable neighbors. Price \$1,400, \$600 cash, balance \$150 a year, and it is worthy of immediate attention. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

A COSY LITTLE FARM NEAR THE VILLAGE. Half a mile from various churches, high school, etc., containing 13 acres, 2 in wood, good productive land, cuts 6 tons English hay, keeps 3 cows, some choice fruit, well of good water, cottage house, 5 finished rooms, painted and papered, barn 36x30 with shed attached, all in good repair, except outside painting. Price \$800, only a part cash required. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, Boston.

GOOD LAND, HAY, WOOD, CRANBERRIES, AND EVERYTHING REQUIRED ON A FARM. For \$1200 a farm of 80 acres, 30 in wood, will cut 600 cords, excellent land, level and free from stones, cuts 15 tons No. 1 English hay, keeps 6 cows and horse, 60 apple trees, besides pears, cherries, plums, grapes and berries, a river flows through the farm, three wells of pure water, cottage of 6 finished rooms, barn 40x30, horse stable 30x30, shop, tool house, carriage house, etc., a desirable bargain is offered, good neighbors. In one of the best towns in the State, superior educational advantage. Price only \$1200, \$350 cash, balance \$100 a year, at 6 per cent. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, Boston.

BE SURE AND READ THIS! One of the choicest farms we ever saw, only 1 mile from the village and various churches, containing 70 acres, 10 in wood and timber, cuts 18 tons English hay, keeps 8 cows, 150 apple and pear trees, rich land, mostly free from stones, near a river, good fishing, 2 story house of seven rooms, painted and papered, barn 52x30, with cellar, in good repair, well located, near good neighbors. Price only \$1400, not the value of the buildings, \$600 cash, balance \$100 a year until paid. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

VALUABLE FARM OF 240 ACRES at BARRE. Two miles from the depot, churches and the celebrated mineral springs, 50 acres in wood, the growth of which will in ten years more than pay for the farm. The land is under high cultivation, free from stones, cuts 60 tons of No. 1 English hay, fine orchard of about 200 choice fruit trees, berries in variety, good housing and fishing within 1/2 mile. The buildings are excellent, comprising a 2 story house of 10 rooms, painted, papered and blinded, fine barn 75x42, with a capital cellar, doors on rollers, shed 35x25, carriage house, piggery, etc., all in good repair. Beautifully located on high land, commanding a delightful view. One of the most desirable farms for the money in New England. Price \$5400, \$1000 cash, balance \$200 a year at 6 per cent. interest. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, Boston.

A FARM AT A DECIDED BARGAIN. \$600 cash, superior 50 acre farm at Westboro', Albany Railroad, 15 acres in wood, cuts 10 tons hay, keeps 4 cows and horse. Fine orchard of 300 apple, pear and peach trees, with choice grapes in variety. Pure water supplied by well and aqueduct. 2 story house of 7 rooms, with L, excellent barn 46x36 with cupola and vane, fenced with matched boards, fine cellar, split stone underpinning, nearly new. A wonderful bargain is offered. A live man can within two years double his money. Price only \$2400, \$600 cash, balance \$300 a year. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, Boston.

SNUG COSY HOME IN NORTH-BORO.

In the village, within five minutes' walk of depot, churches, library, etc., a good house of 6 or 8 rooms, painted and blinded, well arranged and convenient, fine stable, 30x34, nearly new, with cellar, covered with matched boards and painted, all in good repair, 4 acres of good land, free from stones, and highly productive, cuts 2 1/2 tons of grass, 80 choice and thrifty apple, pear, peach and cherry trees, also grapes, strawberries, quinces, blackberries, raspberries, currants, etc. Very pleasantly located, 30 feet above the Assabet river, and adjoining the same. Price \$3000, a very desirable little homestead. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, Boston.

ELEGANT RESIDENCE IN FRANKLIN, NEAR DEAN ACADEMY. Within one eighth mile of depot, five churches, academy, etc., a fine 2 story house, 11 rooms, with bath room, conservatory, etc., hot and cold water, marble mantels, heated by furnace, fine hall, large wash room, with soapstone sinks and tubs, fine cemented cellar, well finished, elegantly papered, and complete in all its parts, fine cupola from which an extensive view is obtained. The grounds comprise about one acre, containing a choice collection of pears, peaches, plums, grapes, raspberries and strawberries, fine collection of flowers, concrete walks everything com-

plete, offered at much less than its cost. Price \$12,000, on easy terms of payment. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

FOR SALE FOR \$3700. Superior farm of 90 acres, with wood enough for fire, level and very productive, cuts 10 tons of hay, by machine, fine orchard of 250 apple and pear trees, with small fruit in variety. A trout brook flows through the pasture. Large 2 story house of 9 rooms, painted and blinded, 3 barns, covered with matched boards, cellar under each in good repair. For \$5000 all the stock, crops and tools will be included, comprising one pair of horses, weighing 3000 lbs. perfect, Jersey cows, hogs, poultry, 3 new farm wagons and cart, market wagon, sleigh, mowing machine, (new this year,) horse rake and fork, new ploughs and cultivators, stone lifter, hay cutter, and many other articles. Located one mile from village on Fitchburg R.R. Only \$1500 cash required. A great bargain is offered. Apply to GEO. H. CHAPIN, 24 Tremont Row, Boston.

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752 PRIZES, amounting to...\$450,000
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One prize of.....50,000
One prize of.....25,000
One prize of.....10,000
Two prizes of \$5,000 each.....10,000
Ten prizes of \$1,000 each.....10,000
Eighty-nine prizes of \$500 each.....44,500
Six hundred and fifty-five prizes of \$300 each.....196,500
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ONE GRAND CASH GIFT OF.....20,000
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ONE GRAND CASH GIFT OF.....5,000
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ONE GRAND CASH GIFT OF.....2,000
And 5,993 Gifts varying in value from \$1,000 to \$10.

PRICE OF TICKETS.
Whole Tickets, \$10; Half Tickets, \$5; Quarter Tickets, \$2.50; Eleven Whole Tickets or Twenty-two Half Tickets for \$100.

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NAVAL SCIENCE: A

Quarterly Magazine for promoting the improvement of naval architecture, marine engineering, steam navigation and seamanship. Edited by E. J. REED, C. B., late Chief Constructor of the British Navy, etc., etc.

This magazine, which is published quarterly in London, Eng., price two shillings and sixpence, is universally admitted to be the leading publication of its class. Each number contains original articles and investigations by the editor and the highest authorities in the several branches of naval science.

Edited by E. J. Reed, C.B., M.P., late Chief Constructor of the British Navy, etc., etc., and Jos. Wolley, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S., late Director of Naval Education of the British Admiralty, etc., etc.

Published by Lockwood & Co., London, Eng. Agent for the United States of America, V.A. NORTON, New York.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, October 10, 1874.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT WILL OFFER for sale at Public Auction, at the Naval Station, New London, Connecticut, on Monday, the 9th day of November, 1874, at 12 o'clock M., the Sectional Floating Dry Dock, now at that station.

This dry dock consists of five sections, each having a main tank 74 feet long, 35 feet wide, and 10 feet 6 inches deep, and two end-floats, each 30 feet 10 inches long, 12 feet wide and 5 feet 6 inches deep, with the necessary machinery.

The dock is calculated to receive a vessel 230 feet long, 45 feet beam, 16 feet draft of water, and of 2,300 tons displacement.

The dock and the inventory of articles to be sold with it can be examined at any time before the day of sale on application to the Commandant of the Station.

Twenty per centum of the whole amount of the purchase money must be deposited at the time of sale, the balance within ten days from the date of confirmation of sale by the Department, and the dock purchased, must be removed from the station within two weeks from the date of such confirmation.

If not confirmed, the money deposited will be returned.

The Government reserves the right to withdraw the dock from sale at any time, and to reject any bid or offer which may be considered inadequate.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, BUREAU OF EQUIPMENT AND RECRUITING, WASHINGTON, 17th Oct., 1874.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED at this office until Friday, 10 o'clock A.M., the 13th November, 1874, for the delivery of 100 tons American or Russian Hemp, at the Charleston Navy Yard, subject there to the usual inspection and Government's tests.

Samples of the quality required can be seen at the Commandant's office, at the said Navy Yard, where all information can be obtained. The Bureau reserves the right to reject any or all the bids, if it is deemed best for the interests of the Government.

Any of the Hemp that is rejected is to be immediately removed from the Navy Yard, and will remain there, at the bidder's risk, until removed.

WILLIAM REYNOLDS,
Chief of Bureau.

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Losses paid in 1873.....506,000
Surplus Fund ret'd policy-holders, 1873.....490,000
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No premium notes taken.
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ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

VOLUME XII.—NUMBER 11.
WHOLE NUMBER 583.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1874.

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Publication Office, 23 Murray St.
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THE ARMY.

ULYSSES S. GRANT,
President and Commander-in-Chief.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General.

G. O. No. 120, WASHINGTON, Oct. 14, 1874.

The monthly allowance of brooms and scrubbing-brushes for issue to troops is fixed as follows: One broom for every 15 enlisted men; one scrubbing-brush for every 20 enlisted men.

Company commanders and post quartermasters will be governed accordingly in making their estimates for garrison equipage. [Vide General Orders No. 94, of 1874.]

G. O. No. 121, WASHINGTON, Oct. 15, 1874.

The following Opinion of the Judge-Advocate-General, in which the Secretary of War concurs, is published for the information of the Army:

OPINION.

Where a sentence of Court-martial imposes a forfeiture of the "monthly pay" (or of a stated portion of the monthly pay) of an accused for a certain number of "months," or "years" (or for the "same period" as that of a term of confinement imposed in the same sentence), the forfeiture actually adjudged is that of the entire (or stated portion of the entire) month's pay of the accused for each and every month of the period indicated. Thus, a forfeiture in a sentence of the "monthly pay" of an Infantry soldier "for six months" means a forfeiture of thirteen dollars for each month of the period named, or seventy-eight dollars in all. So, a forfeiture of "ten dollars of his monthly pay for one year" (or "for the same period" as that of a term of confinement fixed by the same sentence at one year) means a forfeiture of ten dollars out of the pay of each month of the year, or of one hundred and twenty dollars in all.

This is the only construction of which this class of sentence is susceptible in law. And the addition to the term "monthly pay," as employed in such sentences of the words "per month," adds nothing to the meaning of the sentence, affects in no manner its legal import, and is, in any case, wholly superfluous.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, October 15, 1874.

Circular Orders No. 2.

Medical officers will forward with the Sanitary Reports of December 31, 1874, a special report on the following subjects, to be made as full and be as carefully prepared as possible, as the results are desired for publication.

I. On the food of the army, its quantity, quality, and mode of preparation. What is the character of the articles forming the regular ration as furnished to the Post? What is the average amount of saving for Post Fund? What articles of food and in what amount are purchased by the Post Fund, obtained from Post Garden, or by hunting or fishing? Ice, how obtained and in what quantities furnished?

How is the cooking done for the men? Give bill of fare for a week at different seasons. Is the food of the men inspected daily? How often is it inspected by the medical officer? Have any complaints been made by the men about the food, and have any cases of disease occurred which may be attributed to the food or its mode of preparation? If so, specify. Character of kitchen and bakery fixtures. Has any special apparatus, such as the Warren Cooker or the felt box been tried? If so, give results. Character and amount of extra articles furnished by the Commissary Department for officers' use. Diet of the Sick and Hospital Fund. Remarks, suggestions, and recommendations.

II. Duties of medical officers in scouting parties and expeditions. Nature and amount of medical supplies required, how carried, means of transportation for wounded. Remarks.

III. On military punishments and their effect on the health and morale of the soldier. Give instances, recommendations, etc.

IV. Personal cleanliness of the men. What are the Post Regulations, if any, with regard to bathing? What facilities are afforded? How often are the men's blankets washed?

The above report must be forwarded promptly to the Medical Director on or before January 1. Medical Directors will forward them with their own observations and comments on the points above referred to.

By order of the Surgeon-General.

C. H. CRANE,
Assistant Surgeon-General, U. S. Army.

Casualties among the Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, October 10, 1874.

First Lieutenant Thilo Schultze, Eighteenth Infantry—Died October 5, 1874, at Atlanta, Ga.

Second Lieutenant Samuel K. Thompson, Twenty-fifth Infantry—Cashiered August 10, 1874.
Second Lieutenant Russell Thayer, Eleventh Infantry—Resigned September 30, 1874.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS.

Issued from the War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, for the week ending October 19, 1874.

[No Special Orders were issued from the Adjutant-General's Office, on Tuesday, October 13, and on Thursday, October 15, 1874.]

Wednesday, October 14.

Second Lieutenant William B. Weir Fifth Artillery, having complied with Special Orders No. 158, July 22, 1874, from this office, will rejoin his proper station.

To be discharged.—Private Andreas Eissenring, G. Sixth Cavalry; Corporals Silas H. Jacques and Henry Weiss; Privates Constantine Wiecekassar, Charles Hut-tich, Joseph Joss, John Smith, and Harry Linden, General Service U. S. Army; William P. Glover, alias Francis Johnson, G. Eighth Cavalry.

Restored to duty without trial and transferred.—Private Charles Monaghan, General Service U. S. Army, to G. Twelfth Infantry.

Revoked.—The transfer of Privates Thomas Linn, M. Fifth Artillery, to M. Fourth Artillery; George Jordan, A. Tenth Infantry, to C. Third Cavalry.

The Commanding General Department of the South will grant an extension of ten days to the furlough granted Commissary Sergeant T. B. Harrison, U. S. Army, in compliance with Special Orders No. 172, August 7, 1874, from this office.

Hospital Steward Bernhard Stockmyer, U. S. Army, now on duty at Omaha Barracks, Neb., will be honorably discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the post where he may be serving.

Friday, October 16.

Post Chaplain Moses J. Kelley is relieved from duty in the Department of the Columbia and will report, on the expiration of his leave of absence, to the Commanding General Department of Dakota for assignment.

On the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General, First Lieutenant T. W. Morrison, Sixteenth Infantry, Acting Assistant Quartermaster, will assume charge of the National Cemetery at Little Rock, Ark., relieving Major H. C. Hodges, Chief Quartermaster Department of the Gulf.

To be discharged.—Privates Frank Farwell, H. Twenty-first Infantry; Peter Pitteck, General Service U. S. Army.

Revoked.—Order relating to the following named enlisted men: Privates Nathan Jones, I. Thirteenth Infantry, transferred to G. Twelfth Infantry; Joseph Kenny, E. Eighth Cavalry, transferred to D. First Cavalry. Transfer of Privates Henry F. Buckner, I. First Cavalry, and William Burns, D. Third Cavalry, to A. First Cavalry.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Assistant Surgeon Ezra Woodruff will report in person to the President of the Army Medical Board in session in New York City, for examination for promotion, and upon completion of his examination will report in person to the Commanding General Military Division of the Atlantic for assignment to duty.

Saturday, October 17.

Revoked.—Transfer of Private Robert Frey, M. First Cavalry, to K. Twenty-first Infantry.

To be discharged.—Private John H. Hamlet, I. Sixth Cavalry, now with his command, on condition that he refunds to the United States the amount of his indebtedness; Privates William Woodard, E. Twelfth Infantry; John A. McDonald, Depot Band, General Mounted Service U. S. Army; Denis Leonard and Geo. B. Sharp, General Service U. S. Army, now with the Signal Service Detachment, at Fort Whipple, Va.; John O. Baker, E. Sixteenth Infantry.

A General Court-martial is appointed to meet at Fort Whipple, Va., on the 20th day of October, 1874, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of Private James Sinclair, Signal Service U. S. Army, and such other prisoners as may be brought before it. Detail for the court: Captain Frank E. Taylor, First Artillery; First Lieutenants R. P. Strong and Robert Craig, Fourth Artillery, Acting Signal Officers; George S. Grimes and C. E. Kilbourne, Second Artillery, Acting Signal Officers; Second Lieutenant W. B. Weir, Fifth Artillery, Acting Signal Officer, Judge-Advocate of the Court. No other officers than those named can be assembled without manifest injury to the service. The Court is authorized to sit without regard to hours.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following are the changes of stations of troops reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, October 17:

Company I, Third Cavalry, from Fort McPherson, Neb., to Fort Dodge, Kas.
Company A, Seventh Cavalry, to Livingston, Ala.
Company E, Seventh Cavalry, to Greensboro, Ala.
Company M, Third Artillery, from David's Island, N. Y. H., to Fort Wardsworth, N. Y. H.
Companies D and G, Ninth Infantry,* from Camp Sheridan, Neb., to Camp Robinson, Neb.
Company D, Seventeenth Infantry, from Camp Hancock, D. T., to Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.

Company G, Seventeenth Infantry, from Grand River Agency, D. T. to Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.
Company G, Twenty-fourth Infantry, from Fort Brown, Tex., to Fort Richardson, Tex.
Post Established.—Greensboro, Ala.
Posts Discontinued.—David's Island, N. Y. H.; Camp Hancock, D. T.

* Formerly Spotted Tail Agency.

GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL ORDERS.

G. C. M. O. No. 73, Washington, September 24, 1874.—Before a G. C. M. which convened at Austin, Texas, July 15, 1874, pursuant to S. O. No. 139, W. D., A. G. O., Washington, June 24, 1874, and of which Colonel George L. Andrews, Twenty-fifth Infantry, is President, was arraigned and tried, First Lieutenant W. Hoffman, Tenth Infantry, on charges: 1. Violation of the 45th Article of War; 2. Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline; 3. Conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman. The specifications alleged that he was repeatedly drunk while on duty at Austin, Texas; that he absented himself from his command of the post for about two days without properly turning it over; that having voluntarily given a pledge upon release from arrest, to his commanding officer, to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors for a year, and again, if he was kept from being tried, that he would never touch them while in the Army, he yet was afterwards frequently drunken while on duty. There were other specifications, alleging falsehood and failure to fulfill promises to pay debts, but of these he was found not guilty, though of all the other specifications and all the charges guilty. He was sentenced "To be cashiered." The proceedings, findings, and sentence are approved. A majority of the members of the court recommend the accused to clemency "in consideration of his youth, and in the belief that this lesson will be a final one and inure to the benefit of the accused and of the service." In view of this recommendation, and with the hope that clemency in this case may conduce both to the advantage of the service and of the accused, the President is pleased to mitigate the sentence to "suspension from rank and command for the period of six months; to the forfeiture of all his pay during that period except seventy-five dollars per month, and to confinement during the same period to the limits of the post which may be the headquarters of his regiment." The General Court-martial of which Colonel George L. Andrews, Twenty-fifth Infantry, is President, is hereby dissolved.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

W. T. Sherman, General of the Army of the United States.

Colonel W. D. Whipple, Assistant Adjutant-General.

1. Par. 1, Special Orders No. 31, c. s., from these Headquarters, granting leave of absence for three months to First Lieutenant Julius E. Quantin, Fourteenth Infantry, is hereby revoked. (S. O. No. 42, September 30.)

2. Sergeant William G. Foster, General Service U. S. Army, on duty at these Headquarters, is hereby discharged the service of the United States, to date October 1, 1874. (Ibid.)

1. The leave of absence for one month granted Major H. C. Bankhead, Fourth Cavalry, by Par. 1, Special Orders No. 140, Headquarters Department of Texas, 1874, is extended three months. (S. O. No. 44, October 3.)

2. Colonel J. C. McCoy, Aide-de-Camp, is, for the present, relieved from the operation of General Orders No. 4, of September 5, 1874, from these Headquarters. The City of Washington will continue to be his station until his health is sufficiently restored to enable him to join the Headquarters of the Army in St. Louis, Mo. (Ibid.)

CORPS OF ENGINEERS.

Brigadier-General A. A. Humphreys, Chief of Engineers.

The following Memorandum of Orders, Circulars, and Instructions, relating to the Corps of Engineers, issued or received during the month of September, 1874, and not already published:

Lieutenant-Colonel Newton—September 2. To relieve Major Wilson of the charge of so much of the survey of the 3d sub-division of the "Northern route" designated by the Senate Select Committee on Transportation Routes to the seaboard, as extends from Troy on the Hudson River to New York City.

Officers of Engineers and Agents—September 3. Publishes War Department Circular relative to Statements of Public Funds.

Major Merrill—September 11. Leave of absence for seven days taken under par. 180, Army Regulations, extended ten days.

Colonel Simpson, Majors Weitzel, Farquhar—September 24. Board of Engineer Officers to assemble at Rock Island, Ill., October 6, 1874, to report upon removing north pier of old railroad bridge in the Mississippi River between Rock Island and Davenport.

Colonel Simpson—September 26. Granted leave of absence for thirty days.

Colonel Simpson, Majors Weitzel, Farquhar—September 29. In addition to the duties assigned them in S. O. 137, H. Q. C. of E., 1874, to report upon location and plan of bridge to be constructed over the Mississippi River at or near Clinton, Iowa.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieutenant-Gen. P. H. Sheridan: Hdq'r's Chicago, Ill.

DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

Brig.-General Alfred H. Terry: Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.

Fort Ripley.—Telegraphic instructions were sent October 12, directing the commanding officer Fort Ripley, Minn., to send a detachment from his post consisting of one commissioned officer and twenty enlisted men to Leech Lake, Minn., for the purpose of assisting the U. S. Indian Agent in making payment of annuities to the Indians.

Sixth Infantry.—The leave of absence granted Captain J. S. Poland was October 10 extended five days.

Leave of absence for one month on surgeon's certificate of disability was October 10 granted First Lieutenant Nelson Bronson, Sixth Infantry (Fort Buford, D. T.). In compliance with orders directing him to repair to Fort Abercrombie, after completing certain duties at Fort Buford, D. T., First Lieutenant E. B. Atwood, was ordered to proceed via St. Paul, Minn., reporting en route at headquarters for instructions.

Seventeenth Infantry.—In accordance with S. O. No. 222, October 8, Captain L. H. Sanger's, Company G, Seventeenth Infantry, will be at once relieved from duty at Grand River Agency and put en route to Fort Abraham Lincoln, D. T., where it will take post for duty until further orders, and Company D, Seventeenth Infantry, relieved from duty at Camp Hancock and will at once proceed to and take post at Fort Abraham Lincoln, D. T., until further orders.

Twentieth Infantry.—Leave of absence for one month was October 7 granted First Lieutenant R. M. Taylor, (Fort Seward, D. T.), with permission to apply through the proper channels for an extension of four months, the leave not to take effect until the return of Second Lieutenant C. H. Ribbel, Twentieth Infantry, to the post.

Fort Abraham Lincoln.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Abraham Lincoln, D. T., October 22. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel W. P. Carlin, Seventeenth Infantry; Captains J. S. Poland, Sixth Infantry; G. W. Yates, Seventh Cavalry; First Lieutenants T. W. Custer, Seventh Cavalry; William Badger and John Carland, Seventh Cavalry; James Calhoun, Seventh Infantry; Second Lieutenant Alexander Ogle, Seventeenth Infantry. Capt. Stephen Baker, Sixth Infantry, judge-advocate.

Fort Shaw.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Shaw, M. T., October 29. The following officers of the Seventh Infantry were detailed for the court: Captains C. C. Rawn, Richard Combs, Constant Williams; First Lieutenants William Quinton, G. H. Wright; Second Lieutenants W. L. English, C. A. Woodruff, A. V. Amet. First Lieutenant A. H. Jackson, judge-advocate.

Fort Abercrombie.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Abercrombie, D. T., October 22. The following officers of the Seventeenth Infantry were detailed for the court: Colonel T. L. Crittenden; W. M. Van Horne; First Lieutenants H. S. Howe, T. G. Troxel, W. P. Rodgers, J. M. Burns; Second Lieutenant D. H. Brush. Captain C. E. Bennett, judge-advocate.

Fort Snelling.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Snelling, Minn., October 1. Surgeon A. Heger, U. S. Army, and the following officers of the Twentieth Infantry were detailed for the court: Colonel George Sykes; Captain H. G. Thomas; First Lieutenants J. S. Stafford, T. W. Lord, John Bannister; Second Lieutenant W. H. Low, Jr. Second Lieutenant J. B. Rodman, judge-advocate.

DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

Brigadier-General John Pope: Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.

Cheyenne Agency.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Agency, I. T., October 10. Captain Adam Kramer and First Lieutenant Sebree Smith, Sixth Cavalry, judge-advocate, and the following officers of the Fifth Infantry were detailed for the court: Captains Samuel Oven-shine, A. S. Bennet; First Lieutenant Mason Carter; Second Lieutenants Charles E. Hargous, George P. Borden, David Q. Rousseau.

Eighth Cavalry. The Secretary of War having designated the Eighth Cavalry, to be armed with the Springfield carbine, calibre .45, the company commanders of that regiment are ordered to at once make out and forward proper requisitions on the commanding officer Fort Union Arsenal, N. M., for these arms and the necessary ammunition, turning their old arms and ammunition to the Fort Union Arsenal, N. M.

Commissary Department.—Leave of absence for fifteen days was October 12 granted Captain William A. Elderkin, commissary subsistence U. S. Army (Pueblo, C. T.).

Court-martial.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at the Camp of the Indian Territory Expedition, October 26. Detail for the court: Major W. R. Price, Eighth Cavalry; Captains H. B. Bristol, Fifth Infantry; Louis T. Morris, Eighth Cavalry; Wyllys Lyman, Fifth Infantry; Joseph Kern, Sixth Cavalry; E. P. Ewers, Fifth Infantry; Charles A. Hartwell, Eighth Cavalry; Assistant Surgeon W. E. Waters, U. S. Army; First Lieutenants Robert McDonald, F. D. Baldwin, George W. Baird, Fifth Infantry. Captain Edmund Butler, Fifth Infantry, judge-advocate.

Tenth Cavalry.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at St. Louis, Mo., October 16, for the trial of Captain George T. Robinson, Tenth Cavalry. Detail for the court: Surgeon B. A. Clements, U. S. Army; Captains Geo. K. Brady, J. T. Haskell, Twentieth Infantry; Owen Hale, Seventh Cavalry; First Lieutenants George McM. Taylor, W. L. Clarke, and

P. T. Brodrick, Twenty-third Infantry. First Lieutenant W. J. Volkmar, Fifth Cavalry, judge-advocate.

Medical Department.—Assistant Surgeon Carlos Carvallo, U. S. Army, having reported in person at department headquarters in compliance with par. 1, S. O. No. 200, c. a., War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, was October 14 ordered to proceed without delay, to Fort Union, N. M., and from thence report by letter to the commanding officer District of New Mexico, for assignment to duty at Fort Stanton, N. M., relieving A. A. Surgeon A. T. Fitch, U. S. Army, who, upon being so relieved, will proceed to Fort Dodge, Kas., and report to the commanding officer of that post for duty.

Leave of absence for fifteen days was October 10 granted A. A. Surgeon M. M. Shearer, U. S. Army (Fort Riley, Kas.).

Upon the arrival of the garrison of Fort Tulerosa, N. M., at Fort Craig, N. M., A. A. Surgeon J. M. Laing, U. S. Army, was October 16 relieved from duty in the District of New Mexico, and report in person to the medical director, at department headquarters. Upon the recommendation of the medical director of the department, and to enable him to present himself before the Army Medical Examining Board, A. A. Surgeon H. S. Turrill, U. S. Army, was same date relieved from duty in the District of New Mexico, and ordered to report in person at department headquarters for annulment of contract.

Colonel Miles' Expedition.—The following is a despatch from General Pope to Headquarters of the Army, transmitted to the Adjutant-General on the 19th instant, relative to progress of Colonel Miles' Expedition:

To Adjutant-General, U. S., Washington.

"HEADQUARTERS INDIAN TERRITORY EXPEDITION,
"CAMP ON GAGEBY CREEK, TEXAS,
"October 14, VIA
"FORT DODGE, October 17, 1874."

"This command is driving large number of Indians in the direction of the Cheyenne Agency, where I believe they will surrender, if not to these forces. They are travelling rapidly in their endeavor to escape our forces. The expedition is operating in five columns with gratifying success."

"NELSON A. MILLS,
"Brevet Major-General Commanding."

Military Items.—We take the following items from the *Regimental Flag*, of Santa Fe, N. M., October 10: Lieutenant Bufum, Fifteenth Infantry, passed through this city about the first of the month and is at present on special duty inspecting the telegraph line between here and Pueblo. Major N. W. Osborne, Fifteenth Infantry, has been ordered from Fort Selden, to Fort Garland, where, upon his arrival, he will assume command of that regiment. General Thomas C. Devin, lieutenant-colonel Eighth Cavalry, arrived in the city, from Fort Bayard, on the 28th of last month. The General will assume command of the district and regiment as soon as General Gregg leaves for the east, which will be on or about the 15th of this month.

Payment of Troops.—Major J. B. M. Potter, paymaster, U. S. Army, was October 15 ordered to pay the troops stationed at Santa Fe, N. M., and, on completion of this, proceed to Forts Union N. M., Garland, C. T., and Major Alexander's command in Camp on Willow Creek, C. T., for the purpose of paying the troops stationed at those points to October 31, 1874, making his first payment as soon after the 3d proximo as possible. Major W. H. Johnson, paymaster, U. S. Army, was same date ordered to proceed from Santa Fe, N. M., to Forts Craig, McRae, Bayard, Selden, Stanton, and Wingate, N. M., for the purpose of paying the troops stationed at those points to October 31, 1874, making his first payment as soon after the 3d proximo as possible. Major Johnston will also pay the troops which have recently formed the garrison of Fort Tulerosa, and will, if necessary, visit Tulerosa for that purpose.

Major E. H. Brooke, paymaster, U. S. Army, was ordered October 16 to pay the troops stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kas. On completion of this payment he will proceed to Forts Riley, Hayes, Wallace, Kan., and Lyon, C. T., Granada, C. T., the stations on the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad between Granada, C. T., and Fort Dodge, Kas., Fort Dodge, Kas., Camp Supply, I. T., Fort Larned, Kas., Caldwell, Kas., and Fort Gibson, I. T., for the purpose of paying the troops stationed at those points to October 31, 1874, making his first payment not later than the 3d proximo. Major Frank Bridgman, paymaster, U. S. Army, was same date ordered to pay the troops stationed at Chicago, Ill., and, on completion of this payment, proceed to the Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., the Cavalry Depot, St. Louis, Mo., and Jefferson Barracks, Mo., for the purpose of paying the troops stationed at those points to October 31, 1874.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.

Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord: Headquarters, Omaha, Neb.

Thirteenth Infantry.—The commanding officer of Fort McPherson was October 2 ordered to send Company H, Thirteenth Infantry, then temporarily at North Platte, to its station at Sidney Barracks.

The Thirteenth regiment of Infantry was October 10 relieved from duty in this department, and ordered to New Orleans.

Third Cavalry.—Upon arrival at Cheyenne, Lieutenant-Colonel Cuvier Grover, acting assistant inspector-general, was October 3 ordered to proceed to inspect the posts at Fort Laramie and Camps Robinson and Sheridan. Having performed this duty he will return via Fort McPherson to his station in Omaha.

Company L, Third Cavalry, was October 3 relieved from duty at Camp Brown and ordered to proceed to Fort D. A. Russell and there take post.

First Lieutenant Peter D. Vroom, Jr., Third Cavalry, was October 14 relieved from temporary duty at Fort McPherson, and will proceed to join his company at Fort D. A. Russell.

Judge-Advocate.—Leave of absence for one month was October 10 granted Major H. B. Burnham, judge-advocate, U. S. Army.

Medical Department.—A. A. Surgeon Edward Lauderdale, U. S. Army, was October 10 relieved from duty at Sidney Barracks and ordered to report in person, to Lieutenant-Colonel Henry A. Morrow, Thirteenth Infantry, to accompany the detachment, 13th Infantry, from that station to the Department of the Gulf; A. A. Surgeon Henry A. Page, U. S. Army, was same date relieved from duty at Camp Stambaugh, and ordered to accompany Company C, Thirteenth Infantry, to the Department of the Gulf.

Surgeon Charles Page, acting medical director, was ordered October 5 to make a medical inspection of the hospitals and medical property at Camp Douglas, Fort Bridger, Fort D. A. Russell, and North Platte.

Second Cavalry.—Second Lieutenant James N. Allison was October 10 placed on special duty at Omaha Barracks, for the period of ten days, from the 13th instant, in order that he might become familiar with the use of the Morse telegraph instrument now in use at the post.

Captain A. E. Bates, Second Cavalry, was ordered October 5 to proceed to Cheyenne Depot to procure twenty horses for his company. The depot quartermaster at Cheyenne will turn over to Captain Bates twenty horses.

Major James S. Brisbin, Second Cavalry, was ordered October 5 via the Loup valleys, to examine into and report upon the condition and whereabouts of public arms, heretofore distributed to settlers in that vicinity, and to collect such of these arms as he may find in improper hands. Having performed this duty, Major Brisbin will return to his station at Omaha Barracks.

Twenty-third Infantry.—Leave of absence for twenty days was October 10 granted Colonel Jefferson C. Davis.

In obedience to orders from headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, Captain George K. Brady, Captain Joseph T. Haskell, First Lieutenants George McM. Taylor, William L. Clarke, and Patrick T. Brodrick, Twenty-third Infantry, were October 12 ordered to report in person to the Assistant Adjutant-General at headquarters Department of the Missouri, for temporary Court-martial duty.

Ninth Infantry.—The commanding officer, District of the Black Hills, was ordered October 12 to transfer Company G (Burrows'), and Company D (Fitzgerald's), Ninth Infantry, from Camp Sheridan to Camp Robinson.

Camp Douglas.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Camp Douglas, U. T., October 21, for the trial of Captain George W. Dost, Fourteenth Infantry, and such other persons as may be properly brought before it. Detail for the court: Colonels Joseph J. Reynolds, Third Cavalry; F. F. Flint, Fourth Infantry; Lieutenant Colonel Albert G. Brackett, Second Cavalry; Captains Charles G. Bartlett, Fourth Infantry; Henry E. Noyes, Second Cavalry; Guy V. Henry and Alexander Moore, Third Cavalry. First Lieutenant William P. Clark, adjutant, Second Cavalry, judge-advocate.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cuvier Grover, Third Cavalry; Major T. H. Stanton, paymaster, U. S. Army; Captain James Egan, Second Cavalry; First Lieutenant Joshua L. Fowler, R. Q. M., Second Cavalry; Second Lieutenant James N. Allison, Second Cavalry, and A. A. Surgeon J. B. W. Gardiner, U. S. Army, were ordered October 16 to proceed to Camp Douglas to appear as witnesses before this General Court-martial.

Fourteenth Infantry.—The commanding officer of Camp Douglas, U. T., was directed October 16 to send First Lieutenant Thomas B. Briggs, Fourteenth Infantry, for temporary duty to Camp Stambaugh, W. T.

DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

Brigadier-Gen C. C. Augur: Headquarters, San Antonio, Texas

Tenth Infantry.—The seven days leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant William Paulding was October 6 extended five days.

Ninth Cavalry.—In compliance with instructions from the War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, September 30, 1874, the following promotion was October 7 announced: Second Lieutenant R. M. Washington, Company B, Ringgold Barracks, to be first lieutenant vice Gerhard, resigned, which carries him to Company E, Fort Concho, Texas. He will proceed to Fort Concho, Texas, without delay, and join the company to which he is promoted by first favorable opportunity.

Second Lieutenant John Conline, Ninth Cavalry, was September 22 relieved from duty with his company and ordered to report to Lieutenant-Colonel Buell, Eleventh Infantry, for duty with his column in the field.

Company D, Ninth Cavalry, was September 21 relieved (on account of its weakness in horses and men) from duty with Lieutenant-Colonel Buell's column and ordered to be reported for temporary duty at Fort Sill, I. T.

Tenth Cavalry.—Leave of absence for one month, to take effect when, in the judgment of his post commander, his services can be spared, with permission to apply for an extension of five months, was October 7 granted First Lieutenant W. Davis Jr. (Fort Griffin, Texas.)

Company E, Tenth Cavalry, was September 21 relieved from temporary duty at Fort Sill, I. T., and ordered to be reported to Lieutenant-Colonel Buell, Eleventh Infantry, for duty with his column in the field.

First Artillery.—First Lieutenant A. Capron was ordered October 4 to proceed from Denison, Texas, to Fort Sill, I. T., via Fort Richardson, Texas.

Medical Department.—Hospital Steward Herman Miller, U. S. Army, was October 10 relieved from duty at Fort Richardson, Texas, and ordered to Fort Sill, I. T.

Chaplain.—Leave of absence for one month, on surgeon's certificate of disability, was October 10 granted Chaplain M. J. Gonzales, Ninth Cavalry (Ringgold Barracks, Texas).

Fort Sill.—The commanding officer Fort Sill was ordered September 28 to establish a line of mounted messengers between that post and Caddo Station. It is to have one mounted man at each intervening stage station and two at Caddo Station.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE SOUTH.

Major-General I. McDowell: *Headq'rs, Louisville, Ky.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

Major-General I. McDowell: *Headquarters, Louisville, Kentucky*

Charleston.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Charleston, S. C., October 13. Captain James G. C. Lee, A. Q. M., U. S. Army, Assistant Surgeon Joseph R. Gibson, U. S. Army, and the following officers of the First Artillery were detailed for the court: Colonel Israel Vodge; First Lieutenants J. H. Counselman, James L. Sherman; Second Lieutenant Robert H. Patterson. First Lieutenant Edward H. Totten, judge-advocate.

Alabama.—On the 15th instant, telegraphic instructions were sent to the commanding officer, Department of the Gulf, to send the following companies to Alabama: One company of the Second Infantry, to Mobile Barracks, Mobile; one company of the Eighteenth Infantry, to Greenville, Butler County; one company of the Eighteenth Infantry, to Tuskegee, Macon County; one company of the Eighteenth Infantry, to Opelika, Lee County.

Thirteenth Infantry.—The following telegram was sent to Adjutant-General Townsend, October 16, from the headquarters of the Army at St. Louis:

The following despatch has just been received from Lieutenant-Colonel Morrow:

DIYER, TENN., October 15.

The train with a battalion of the Thirteenth Infantry was wrecked at 11 o'clock last night, two miles south of this place. The accident was caused by a wheel of the engine-truck breaking. Two soldiers were killed, and several wounded. The engine, four baggage cars, and a passenger car are a complete wreck. We will be under headway again in the course of the afternoon. Please give publicity of the extent of the accident to relieve the minds of friends.

HENRY A. MORROW,

Lieut.-Colonel Thirteenth Infantry.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Colonel W. H. Emory: *Headquarters, New Orleans, La.*

Third Infantry.—Captain James A. Snyder was ordered October 10 to proceed to Fort Leavenworth, Kas., and report to the commanding officer of that post as a witness before a General Court-martial in the case of Private John Fenwick. When discharged from further attendance before the court Captain Snyder will rejoin his station.

Major Henry Chipman, Third Infantry, was October 15 assigned temporarily to duty at Jackson Barracks, La.

Seventh Cavalry.—A detachment of one officer and ten men from Company H, Seventh Cavalry, was ordered October 15 to proceed by the first opportunity to Breaux Bridge, near St. Martinsville, La., for the purpose of aiding the U. S. Marshal in serving writs of U. S. Court. The party will take camp equipage, and forage and rations for fifteen days.

In accordance with department S. O. No. 162, the Parishes lying along Red River north and west of Grant and Rapides, inclusive, will constitute the District of the Upper Red River with headquarters at Shreveport. Major Lewis Merrill, Seventh Cavalry, is assigned to the command of the District and will at once proceed to Shreveport, La., and assume command. The posts at Monroe, Pineville, Colfax, Coushatta, and Shreveport are within the limits of this District. The District is constituted for the purpose of facilitating the preservation of order and complying with requisitions of the U. S. Marshal to furnish *posses* to aid in the service of writs. The stated reports, returns and requisitions will be made from the several posts direct to department headquarters as before. A detachment of one commissioned officer and ten men from Company K, Seventh Cavalry, will at once proceed to Breaux Bridge, near St. Martinsville, La., for the purpose of assisting the U. S. Marshal in serving writs. The detachment will take with it camp equipage, and rations and forage for fifteen days. On being notified by the Marshal that their services are no longer needed the detachment will proceed to join its company at Colfax, La. Company K, Seventh Cavalry, will proceed to Colfax, La., and there take post for the purpose of assisting the U. S. Marshal in serving writs and executing processes of the U. S. Courts. The company will take with it camp equipage, and forage and rations for two months.

Medical Department.—Hospital Steward John W. R. Cato, U. S. Army, was October 15 relieved from further duty at Jackson Barracks, and ordered to report to the acting medical director of the department for temporary duty in his office.

In accordance with department Orders No. 162, the hospital at the camp at Greenville will be broken up and the stores, etc., distributed as may be directed by

the acting medical director of the department. Assistant Surgeon Robert H. White, U. S. Army, is relieved from duty at the Camp at Greenville and will report to Lieutenant-Colonel John R. Brooke, Third Infantry, commanding troops in this city, for assignment to duty.

First Artillery.—Leave of absence for one month on surgeon's certificate of ill health was October 13 granted First Lieutenant Chandler P. Eakin (Barrancas Barracks, Fla.)

Adjutant-General's Department.—Leave of absence for one month was October 16 granted Major E. R. Platt, assistant adjutant-general. During the temporary absence of Major Platt, Captain W. W. Sanders, Sixth Infantry, A. D. C., will discharge the duties of assistant adjutant-general of the department.

Thirteenth Infantry.—Upon the arrival of Lieutenant-Colonel H. A. Morrow, with five companies of his regiment he was October 16 ordered to take post temporarily at Jackson Barracks, La., reporting for duty to Colonel De L. Floyd-Jones, Third Infantry, commanding post.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

Major-General W. S. Hancock: *Headq'rs, New York.*

Officers Registered.—The following officers were registered at the Headquarters Military Division of the Atlantic, for the week ending October 20, 1874: First Lieutenant James M. Ropes, Eighth Cavalry; Major J. M. Robertson, Second Artillery; Major J. A. Potter, quartermaster, U. S. Army; Captain W. F. Randolph, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant Rufus P. Brown, Fourth Infantry; Colonel James A. Hardie, Inspector-General; Second Lieutenant Thomas W. Symons, Corps of Engineers; Major J. Lynde, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant J. F. Munson, Sixth Infantry; Lieutenant-Colonel Rufus Saxton, Quartermaster's Department; First Lieutenant J. W. Bean, Fifteenth Infantry.

Fifth Artillery.—Leave of absence for fifteen days, on surgeon's certificate of disability was October 14 granted First Lieutenant William E. Van Reed (Fort Adams, R. I.)

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant J. Estcourt Sawyer, Fifth Artillery, from the post of Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., was October 8 extended ten days.

Leave of absence for one month was October 15 granted First Lieutenant Selden A. Day, Fifth Artillery (Fort Trumbull, Conn.)

Subsistence Department.—Major Thomas J. Haines, commissary of subsistence, U. S. Army, was October 17 ordered to repair to New York City on business connected with the Subsistence Department, on the completion of which he will return to his station at Boston, Mass.

Third Artillery.—The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant Henry C. Danes, from the post of Fort Ontario, N. Y., was October 8 extended seven days.

Major Robert V. W. Howard, Third Artillery, was October 13 ordered to assume command of Fort Wood, Bedloe's Island, N. Y. H.; Company M, Third Artillery (Warner's), then at David's Island, was same date ordered to take post at Fort Wadsworth, N. Y. H.; Major Howard, Third Artillery, to detail a suitable guard from Company M, Third Artillery, to remain at David's Island in charge of the public buildings and property at that post.

First Lieutenant James O'Hara, Third Artillery, A. A. Q. M. at Fort Porter, N. Y. H., was October 7 ordered to take charge of all the public property thereat, pertaining to the several staff departments.

Commissary Department.—Major Michael R. Morgan, commissary of subsistence, was ordered October 8 to proceed to Boston, Mass., on business connected with the Subsistence Department, and return to New York.

David's Island.—The chiefs of the several staff departments at department headquarters will take the necessary measures to cause the removal of the property at David's Island belonging to their departments to points where it can be suitably stored and cared for, or, to have any portion of such that may be unserviceable (including buildings) inspect with a view to condemnation.

Twenty-second Infantry.—In addition to his duties at Fort Wayne, Mich., First Lieutenant Platt M. Thorne, R. Q. M., was October 7 ordered to take charge of all the public property now at Fort Gratiot, Mich., and without delay, proceed to that post and take a careful inventory of such property. Lieutenant Thorne will make such trips to Fort Gratiot as the commanding officer of Fort Wayne may order, as necessary for the proper care of the property.

First Lieutenant Martin E. Hogan, Twenty-second Infantry, was ordered October 7 to proceed without delay to New Orleans, La., for duty with his company.

Fort Monroe.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Monroe, Va., October 12. Detail for the court: Captains Samuel S. Elder, First Artillery; James W. Piper, Fifth Artillery; First Lieutenants Paul Roemer, Fifth Artillery; John C. Scantling, Second Artillery; Harry R. Anderson, Fourth Artillery; Second Lieutenants Benjamin H. Randolph, Third Artillery; W. H. Coffin, Fifth Artillery. First Lieutenant Alonzo E. Millmore, First Artillery, judge-advocate.

Chaplain.—The leave of absence granted Chaplain Osgood E. Herrick, U. S. Army, post of Fort Warren, Mass., was October 7 extended twenty days.

Fort Ontario.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Ontario, N. Y., October 20. First Lieutenant Joshua A. Fessenden, Fifth Artillery, and the following officers of the Third Artillery were detailed for the court: Captain Robert N. Scott; First

Lieutenants Edward C. Knower, Constantine Chas. A. F. Pike, Henry C. Danes; Second Lieutenant Chas. A. H. McCauley. First Lieutenant Henry B. Osgood, judge-advocate.

Fort Hamilton.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., October 14. The following officers of the Third Artillery were detailed for the court: Captains Alexander Piper, Abram C. Wildrick; First Lieutenants Frank W. Hess, James B. Burbank, Abram G. Verplanck, John B. Eaton, Charles H. Heintzelman. Second Lieutenant Asa T. Abbott, judge-advocate.

Second Artillery.—Leave of absence for one month was October 10 granted Captain Joseph C. Breckinridge (Fort Foote, Md.)

Leave of absence for twenty-days, to take effect on the 27th instant, has been granted Captain William P. Graves, Second Artillery (Fort McHenry, Md.)

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

Major-Gen. J. M. Schofield: *Headq'rs San Francisco, Cal.*

Officers Registered.—The following named officers registered at the Headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, for the week ending Tuesday, October 13, 1874: Captains Wm. B. Hughes, Quartermaster's Department; J. W. Reilly, Ordnance Department; First Lieutenant J. P. Story, Fourth Artillery; A. A. Surgeon Levi H. Patty, Medical Department.

Medical Department.—Dr. J. O. Skinner, acting assistant surgeon, U. S. Army, was ordered September 29 to report in person to the commanding officer of the Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., for temporary duty at that post.

Eighth Infantry.—First Lieutenant Folliot A. Whitney having complied with instructions from the War Department, and reported at department headquarters, relinquishing the remainder of the leaves of absence granted him was ordered October 1 to proceed via the Gulf of California, to join his company in the Department of Arizona.

Fourth Artillery.—Second Lieutenant Clarence Deems, having reported at Department headquarters, in obedience to instructions from the War Department, was ordered October 1 to report in person to the commanding officer of Alcatraz Island, Cal., for temporary duty at that post.

Court-martial.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, October 13. Detail for the court: Colonel Horace Brooks, Fourth Artillery; Lieutenant-Colonel Asher R. Eddy, Quartermaster's Department; Lieutenant-Colonel William W. Burns, Subsistence Department; Majors Joseph Stewart, Fourth Artillery; Chas. J. Sprague and Brantz Mayer, Pay Department; Chas. H. Morgan, Fourth Artillery; Captains John Mendenhall, Fourth Artillery; Richard F. O'Beirne, Twenty-first Infantry. Major Herbert P. Curtis, Judge-Advocate, judge-advocate.

Twelfth Infantry.—Leave of absence for two months was October 2 granted Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson D. Nelson, then at Angel Island, Cal.

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

Pay Department.—Major Charles J. Sprague, paymaster, U. S. Army, having been assigned to duty as chief paymaster, Department of California, was October 3 ordered to relieve Major Samuel Woods, paymaster, U. S. Army, of his duties as chief paymaster of this department.

First Cavalry.—The verbal instructions given on the 2d instant to the commanding officer of Benicia Barracks, Cal., to send three enlisted men to Winnemucca, Nevada, to assist Captain Henry Wagner, First Cavalry, in charge of the horses en route for Company C, First Cavalry, were October 8 confirmed. The commanding officer of Benicia Barracks, Cal., was at the same date ordered to detail a non-commissioned officer and two men to report to Captain C. C. Carr, First Cavalry, to assist him in charge of the horses for his company (I, First Cavalry) to Camp Halleck, Nevada, on completion of which duty the men will return to their proper station.

Captain Thomas McGregor, First Cavalry, was October 8 ordered to proceed to Camp Halleck, Nevada, and take temporary command of that post.

Fourth Artillery.—First Lieutenant Sidney W. Taylor, recently transferred to Company F of his regiment, stationed at Sitka, Alaska, was October 5 ordered to remain at the Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., until further orders.

DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

Brig.-Gen. Oliver O. Howard: *Headquarters, Portland, Oregon*

Quartermaster's Department.—Captain George H. Weeks, assistant quartermaster, having reported at Department Headquarters, was September 28 assigned to duty as depot quartermaster at Vancouver. Captain Henry W. Jones, assistant quartermaster, will transfer to Captain Weeks the public property, and having completed the transfer will be relieved from duty in the Department to enable him to comply with War Department orders and in obedience thereto will report to the Commanding General, Military Division of the Atlantic.

Twenty-first Infantry.—First Lieutenant James A. Haughey, having been detailed for recruiting service by the regimental commander, was September 28 relieved from duty in this department and ordered to New York City to report in person to the Superintendent of the General Recruiting Service.

Leave of absence granted to First Lieutenant James A. Haughey, Twenty-first Infantry, was October 3 revoked, he having voluntarily relinquished his right to the same.

The leave of absence for seven days granted Captain Harry M. Smith, Twenty-first Infantry, (Fort Lapwai, Idaho Territory,) September 8, was October 1 extended one month.

Pay Department.—The following assignment of paymasters was September 29 made for the payment of troops to include the muster of August 31, 1874: Major William A. Rucker, Forts Walla Walla, Lapwai and Colville; Major James P. Canby, Fort Klamath, Camps Bidwell and Harney, and Fort Boise. Should Major Canby reach Fort Boise on or about the 31st day of October, he will also pay the troops at that post to include the muster of October 31, 1874.

Fort Klamath.—A General Court-martial was to convene at Fort Klamath, Oregon, on October 12. Detail for the court: Captains James Jackson, First Cavalry; Henry McKelderry, assistant surgeon; John L. Johnston, Twenty-first Infantry; First Lieutenants John Q. Adams, First Cavalry; Melville C. Wilkinson, Third Infantry, aide-de-camp; F. H. E. Epstein, Twenty-first Infantry, judge-advocate of the court; Second Lieutenants Frederick K. Ward, First Cavalry; George S. Hoyle, First Cavalry. No other officers than those named can be assembled without manifest injury to the service. The court will sit without regard to hours.

First Cavalry.—First Lieutenant Charles C. Cresson, at Camp Harney, Oregon, was September 29 ordered to report in person, with a view to his detail on recruiting service, at Division Headquarters.

Major John Green, First Cavalry, on temporary duty at Department Headquarters, was October 2 ordered to Fort Walla Walla, W. T., to transfer to Lieutenant-Colonel Frank Wheaton, Twenty-first Infantry, all public property, at that post, for which he is responsible. On the completion of this duty he will return to Portland, and report at Department Headquarters for instructions.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish Major Green transportation for the authorized allowance of baggage in changing station from Fort Walla Walla, W. T., to Portland, Oregon.

Medical Department.—Hospital Steward William H. H. King, temporarily at Fort Vancouver, W. T., is assigned permanently to duty at that post, and in addition to his present duties was September 30 assigned as clerk in the Medical Purveying Depot at Fort Vancouver.

Chaplain.—Leave of absence for one month, with permission to leave the limits of the department and to apply to Division Headquarters for an extension of one month, was September 30 granted Post Chaplain Toussaint Mesplie, (Fort Boise, Idaho Territory.)

REPORT OF THE PAYMASTER-GENERAL.

PAYMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, October 10, 1874.

To the Honorable the Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to submit my annual report of the transactions of the Pay Department of the Army for the last fiscal year ending 30th June, 1874.

Tabular statements herewith enclosed show in detail the fiscal operations of the Department for that year, summarily stated as follows:

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.	
Balance on hand at the beginning of the fiscal year, (July 1, 1873).....	\$2,152,901.81
Received during the fiscal year from the Treasury.....	14,341,056.12
Received from Soldiers' Deposits.....	346,009.56
Received from other sources.....	697,043.94
Total.....	\$17,497,741.43
Disbursed to the Army.....	\$11,782,168.86
Do. do. Military Academy.....	195,928.47
Do. on Treasury Certificates.....	1,284,738.11
Total Disbursements.....	\$13,262,835.44
Surplus funds deposited in Treasury.....	837,794.85
Paymasters' collections deposited in Treasury.....	697,442.30
Balance in hands of Paymasters June 30, 1874, to be accounted for in next report.....	2,639,673.84
Total.....	\$17,497,741.43

In reporting to you the operations of the Pay Department for the last year, I am bound to say that it has been impossible, with the present force of paymasters, to pay the troops at some posts as promptly and as regularly as the laws and regulations contemplate. Communications to the Headquarters of the Army and to the War Department through all the intermediate commanders have within a few weeks been referred to this office, from several Department Commanders, making application for more paymasters and explaining the reasons for the same. These communications come from the Commanders of the Departments of Dakota, Texas, the Columbia, the Missouri, and the Major-General Commanding the Division of the Pacific. The General Commanding the Army has just shown me the annual report of the last named officer, who says: "The business of the several Staff Departments" (in the Division of the Pacific) "has been conducted in a satisfactory manner, with due regard to economy and the general interests of the public service. In the Pay Department this has been accomplished only by extraordinary efforts on the part of the too small number of officers of that Department."

Thus all that I said in my last annual report as to the necessity of more officers for this Department has now renewed and additional significance. I trust that at the coming session of Congress, the sixth section of the act of March 3, 1869, will be repealed, enabling the Executive to appoint some more officers to this Department.*

* For a full tabular "Statement showing posts visited, miles travelled, and time consumed by each officer of the Pay Department in making the regular bi-monthly payments to the troops"—see speech of Gen. Albright, of Pa., Congressional Record, May 29, 1874, page 38.

It is necessary to add, also, that this legislation should extend to all grades in the Department. There are two vacancies of Deputy Paymaster-General with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. When the interdiction above mentioned is repealed, the two senior Paymasters will be entitled to promotion. The organization of the Pay Department in the 18th section of the act of July 28, 1866, (Vol. 14, p. 335, Statutes-at-large,) should be revived except as to the number of paymasters; thus providing for a Paymaster-General with the rank of Brigadier-General, two Assistant Paymaster-Generals with the rank of Colonel, two Deputy Paymaster-Generals with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and at least fifty Paymasters. The act of June 4, 1872, (Vol. 17, p. 219, Statutes-at-large,) gave authority to the President to fill the then existing vacancy of Paymaster-General with the rank of Colonel. The legislation of the recent act of June 23, 1874, "reorganizing the several staff corps of the Army," should be extended to the Pay Department. Said act provides that the Judge-Advocate-General, the Surgeon-General, the Chief of Ordnance, and the Commissary-General, shall hereafter (as in the act of July 28, 1866,) have the rank of Brigadier-General. I respectfully submit that the rank of Paymaster-General should also remain of that grade.

One of the most critical and onerous duties of all officers of the Department is not only the prompt execution of all laws, but the carrying out of all the manifold interpretations of those laws, requiring the exercise of the utmost vigilance. No one not familiar with the accumulation of new legislation on such points and the necessary volumes of interpretations of the same, would realize the amount of study and caution required in those duties, and how little propriety there would be in entrusting them to temporary appointments.

I shall not go over the ground of my letter to you of 25th March, 1874, setting forth my objections to the scheme of paying the troops by checks, which was sent by you to the House of Representatives, and printed in a document of that body.

The number of re-enlistments during the last year has been fourteen hundred more than during the previous fiscal year. And I am pleased to learn from the Adjutant-General that there has been, during the last year, a considerable reduction in the number of desertions from the Army. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874, there were twenty-six hundred less desertions than during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873. Little of this reduction is due to the diminution of the number of enlisted men, but it is fair to presume that a large share of it is owing to the increasing contentment with the service, by the full operation of the acts of May 15, 1873, for gradual increase of pay, and for soldiers' deposits. Under the first named act an enlisted man will receive, on the expiration of his first enlistment, seventy-two dollars of retained pay, and which he cannot receive until he is discharged.

All the deposits are forfeited by desertion, and their number and total amount has constantly increased. The total deposited in fiscal year ending June 30, 1874, was \$346,009. The total deposited in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873, was \$209,850—showing an increase of sixty-five per cent. The monthly deposits the last year were \$28,884; during the previous year, \$17,488; increase per month, \$11,396. The number of deposits has more than doubled. During the last year the number was 4971; during the former year 2217. Thus the number of small deposits has increased, as well as the number of soldiers who have availed themselves of the privilege.

Several of the regimental and company commanders justly recommend that the interest given for deposits should be six per cent., which was the rate allowed in a similar scheme as it originally passed the Senate. It costs the Government more than four per cent. to raise money, and the improvement in the morale of the troops should be taken into consideration.

The average amount of deposits per company during the year has been largest in the Department of Arizona, viz.: \$1,876.66; next in Department of Missouri, \$1,299.89; next in Department of Dakota, \$1,208.64. As occurred the previous year, the deposits have been largest where the troops have been most in the field for active operations.

I recommend to favorable consideration an annuity scheme for officers of the Army, first presented to you by General J. B. Fry, of the Adjutant General's Department, which I understand was sent from your office to Congress. Under it officers could, by making certain monthly deductions from their pay, secure to their widows, heirs, or nominees, a monthly annuity which will commence on the death of the officer. It is contemplated that the operation shall in the end be a safe one for the Government, and shall involve no loss to the Treasury. It contemplates that the War Department shall have power to prescribe, from time to time, the rules and tables to be employed in the execution of the plan. These tables should be based on the most thorough scientific principles. And if after a long series of years it should be found that they will not perfectly fulfill the above named programme, a change should of course be made in the said tables. But it would require many years to give them a full trial.

I have caused a careful calculation to be made of the annual death rate of officers of the Army for the last fifty years. The casualties were not entered in the Army Register until 1824, or I should have gone farther back. I find that the average annual mortality of officers of the U. S. Army (including deaths in war) has been 24.1 per thousand. The principal parallel statistics which I have found is that the average annual death rate among males over 21 years of age, in England and Wales, from 1841 to 1851, was 21 per thousand. The exact fraction of the population reached was .02104. (Calculated from statistics in English Life Tables, pp. 18 and 19.)

In some of the governments on the continent of Eu-

rope, officers of their armies are not permitted to marry, unless evidence is exhibited of ability to support and maintain a family. Such arbitrary rules do not all suit the genius of our people or of our institutions; but the substitute proposed by this scheme would tend to secure similar ends by the voluntary action of the officers.

Two things are proverbial in our Army: that married officers are as distinguished as other officers for gallantry and heroism; but it is also too true that sometimes those renowned for the most brilliant deeds are habitually improvident. It is not expected that legislatures can in this respect change the nature of soldiers and sailors, but a machinery would be prepared gradually to counteract such habits. It is proposed that the deductions from pay shall be monthly and therefore imperceptible (in comparison with yearly payments); and thus an easy way of avoiding improvidence would be at hand, and the Army would have within itself the means of adding to its prestige and dignity, and of diminishing the calls upon Congress for extra and private legislation.

It is believed that it would be enlightened legislation to adopt a scheme whereby an officer would be encouraged to take such a step, and thus to secure for his heirs some annuity, whatever may be the risks of his profession. Such action always increases the pride and self-respect of the officer, and would nerve his arm in time of war. Thus the Government is incited to such legislation not alone by humanitarian considerations, but by the policy of increasing the efficiency of the service.

The act of May 8, 1874, authorizes leaves of absence on full pay for periods of more than thirty days to officers "on duty at any point west of a line drawn north and south through Omaha City, and north of a line drawn east and west upon the southern boundary of Arizona." I submit the propriety of extending the provisions of that act to the whole of Texas. Some of the most remote posts are now excluded from its benefits.

Respectfully submitted,
BENJ. ALVORD, Paymaster-General, U. S. A.

ANTI-SCORBUTICS.

UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE,
DETROIT, MICH., October 10th, 1874.

General W. T. Sherman, Commanding U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

GENERAL: I have been travelling so much during the whole summer on duty connected with the works under my charge, that I have not read the last chapter on Army Organization from you, which I am told was published about two weeks ago.

This morning, in conversation with First Lieutenant Platte M. Thorne, quartermaster of the Twenty-second Infantry, I learnt from him that in your discussion on anti-scorbutics you omitted the juice of the "Agave Americana."

The manner in which I became acquainted with the virtues of the juice of this plant as an anti-scorbutic was as follows, viz.:

You are undoubtedly aware that shortly after the surrender of General Joe. Johnson to you, I was ordered with my corps to the line of the Rio Grande. After the late General Fred. Steele was assigned to the command of the Department of the Columbia, I was left in command of the Western Rio Grande, District of Texas.

In the absence of vegetables scurvy soon made horrible inroads into my command. At one time nearly eleven thousand men were more or less affected by it. Lieutenant-General Sheridan, who was in command of the Military Division, with headquarters at New Orleans, made every effort to supply us with vegetables, but only with small success on account of their rapid decay in the passage across the Gulf.

In the midst of our troubles General Sheridan came over on a tour of inspection, and then told me of his experience on the Staked Plains, while in command of troops before the war. He informed me that his command was suffering terribly from the scurvy, as no vegetables were to be had. It was then suggested to him by the doctor of his command (whose name I have unfortunately forgotten) to try the juice of the plant above mentioned, which grows so profusely in Western Texas. Acting upon his advice, I sent out scouting parties to find groves of it, and fortunately found one about one hundred miles to the eastward of Brownsville. We improvised two old fashioned cider presses, and established regular wagon trains to carry the juice to my men.

The men were compelled to hold their noses while drinking it, but it had the happiest results. The scurvy gradually, and when cool weather came and vegetables were brought to us, entirely disappeared.

I would have sent this letter to you through Lieutenant-General Sheridan, but I passed through Chicago yesterday and learned from him that he proposed to start this morning for Fort Sill and the Wichita Mountains.

As I understand that you propose to publish your articles in a book form, I thought it important to inform you of this, so that you might incorporate it, and my experience might be of benefit to the troops whose fortune brings them in that miserable part of our country.

I am, General, very respectfully,
Your obedient serv't,
G. WEITZEL, Major of Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE U. S.,
LOUIS, MO., October 17th, 1874.

General G. Weitzel, Major of Engineers, Detroit, Mich.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I was very glad to receive your valuable communication of October 10, and

with your consent I will send it to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL for publication.

I have no intention of publishing in pamphlet form the article to which you refer, but have placed it before our Military readers to suggest thought and the study of things which are not to be found in the text books. It will be news, and most valuable news to many of our troops along the Mexican border, that the "Agave Americana" is found a good cure or preventative of that horrible disease, the scurvy. Now, by the "Am. Agave," I suppose you mean the Spanish bayonet so common in Florida and Texas.

I also believe that similar virtues will be found in the fruit of the common Prickly Pear, and in the succulent leaves of some of the varieties of the cactus that abounds on the deserts of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona.

A discussion of these things will do great good, because such knowledge may enable one officer to maintain his command in health, when another would halt or retreat for help.

I thank you for your communication, and will be pleased to have all officers contribute their share to this important branch of military knowledge, when, after some time, any one may compile a volume of great use to the young officers who have a right to our experiences without the labor and trouble of discovering it by themselves.

With great respect,

Your obed't serv't,

W. T. SHERMAN, General.

THE PRESIDENT ON LINCOLN.

At the unveiling of the statue of Lincoln, at Springfield, Ill., on the 14th, President Grant, in response to loud calls, stepped forward amid enthusiastic applause, and spoke as follows:

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: On an occasion like the present it is a duty on my part to bear testimony to the great and good qualities of the patriotic man whose earthly remains now rest beneath the dedicated monument. It was not my fortune to make the personal acquaintance of Mr. Lincoln till the beginning of the last year of the great struggle for National existence. During those years of doubt and despondency, among the many patriotic men of the country, Abraham Lincoln never for a moment doubted but the final result would be in favor of peace, Union, and freedom to every race in this broad land; his faith in an all-wise Providence directing our arms to this final result was the faith of the Christian that his Redeemer liveth. Amidst obloquy, personal abuse, and hate undisguised, and which was given vent to without restraint through the press, upon the stump and in private circles, he remained the same staunch, unyielding servant of the people, never exhibiting revengeful feelings toward his traducers. He rather pitied them, and hoped for their own sake and the good name of their posterity that they might desist. For a single moment it did not occur to him that the man (Lincoln) was being assailed, but that the treasonable spirit—one waiting to destroy the freest government the sun ever shone upon—was giving vent to itself on him as the Chief Executive of the nation, only because he was such Executive. As a lawyer in your midst, he would have avoided all that slander, for his life was a pure and simple one, and he no doubt would have been a much happier man; but who can tell what might have been the fate of the nation but for the pure, unselfish, and wise administration of Lincoln? From March, 1864, to the day when the hand of an assassin opened a grave for Mr. Lincoln, then President of the United States, my personal relations with him were as close, as intimate as the nature of our respective duties would permit. To know him personally was to love and respect him for his great qualities of head and heart, and for his patience and patriotism. With all his disappointments from failures on the part of those to whom he intrusted command, and treachery on the part of those who had gained his confidence but to betray it, I never heard him utter a complaint, or cast censure for bad conduct or bad faith. It was his nature to find excuses for his adversaries. In his death the nation lost its greatest head. In his death the South lost its most just friend.

A SHORT time ago General Pinckney, Clerk of the New York Board of Aldermen, found six of the Mexican War medals which were ordered by the Common Council in 1848 in an old safe in the City Library. The names of the soldiers entitled to receive them had been engraved on the obverse, over the Municipal arms; but they were unclaimed. One of the veterans, George H. Stringer, had left for his native city, Dublin; others had departed for different States; but when they returned the medals were missing. General Ward B. Burnett was notified of their discovery, and he promptly communicated with the soldiers who had earned these tributes. Monday being set apart for the presentation, General Burnett and six of the veterans assembled in the Aldermanic committee-room, and General Pinckney gave each of the latter one of the medals—prefacing the ceremony by a brief history of the campaign which led the authorities of the city to have them cast. The following are the names of the recipients: Colonel James E. Kerrigan, late of the Twenty-fifth New York Volunteers, Captain John Cook, George H. Stringer, Jacob Childs, David W. Dyckman, and Peter Waters—all of the Scott Life Guard, which served during the whole Mexican War. The veterans thanked General Pinckney for his kindness, after which they withdrew, well pleased with the mementoes they had received. All the other medals were presented in 1848, by Mayor Havemeyer, who was then, as now, Chief Magistrate of the City, in the presence of about 20,000 people.

THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movement of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

The *Tuscarora* is now ready for sea at San Francisco.

The *Gettysburg* arrived at Boston October 19, on the way to Portsmouth, N. H.

The *Richmond* was at Panama October 7. Health of officers and crew good. She was awaiting a draft of men from New York.

The *Plymouth* has been ordered from Portsmouth to Boston to be docked, and afterwards will touch at Newport on the way to Key West.

A DESPATCH from Pensacola yard of the 19th inst., reports three new cases of fever: Creigler, machinist of the *Rose*; O'Dowd, fireman, and Berriman, seaman, of the *Ajazz*. O'Dowd died—the others were doing well.

The *Benicia* is expected at San Francisco about the 1st of November, and it is reported that she will have on board his Majesty the new King of the Hawaiian Islands, who visits the United States, and avails himself of a passage extended in the *Benicia*.

A NAVAL COURT of Inquiry met at the Norfolk yard on the 20th inst., to investigate the grounding of the *Brooklyn* in Key West Harbor. The following officers compose the court: Commodore J. W. A. Nicholson and George H. Cooper, Captain T. C. Harris, and Captain W. B. Remy, of the Marine Corps, as judge advocate.

REAR-ADMIRAL CASE, commanding the European station, reports his arrival in the *Franklin* at Port Mahon, Minorca, September 14, from Marseilles. The *Congress* arrived there September 17 from Barcelona. With the consent of the authorities, a battalion of about 400 strong was landed from the two ships at Minorca for battalion drill.

THE *Canonicus* has been released from quarantine at New Orleans, having no case of sickness on board. It will be recollected she was sent around from Pensacola. The following is a list of her officers: Lieutenant Commander George F. F. Wilde, Lieutenants George Durand and Isaac Hazlitt, Assistant-engineer William E. Sibley, and Assistant-surgeon J. W. Dillman.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

OCTOBER 15.—Ensign W. E. Sewell, to the Coast Survey.
OCTOBER 16.—Lieutenant-Commander G. C. Schulze, to the Naval Rendezvous, New York.
Lieutenant-Commander Geo. D. B. Glidden, to ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, Boston.
OCTOBER 19.—Commander G. C. Wiltsie, to special duty in taking charge of a draft of recruits for the North Pacific Station, to leave in the Pacific Mail steamer of the 24th inst.
Midshipman John W. Beane, to duty in the North Pacific Station, per steamer of 24th inst.
Boatswain Charles Miller, to the Naval Station, League Island.
OCTOBER 20.—Lieutenant Wm. H. Everett, to the Navy-yard, New York, on the 2d November next.
Ensigns J. L. Hunsicker and H. C. Nye, to the Coast Survey.

DETACHED.

OCTOBER 14.—Commander Milton Haxtun, from the Navy-yard, New York, and placed on waiting orders.
OCTOBER 16.—Lieutenant-Commander Geo. H. Wadleigh, from the Navy-yard, Boston, and ordered as executive of the nautical school ship *St. Mary's*.
Ensign Downer L. Wilson, from the Hydrographic Office on the 30th inst., and ordered to the *Fortune*.
Surgeon Wm. M. King has reported his return home, having been detached from the Naval Hospital, Yokohama, Japan, on the 12th ult., and has been placed on sick leave.
OCTOBER 16.—Commander O. F. Stanton has reported his arrival home, having been detached from the command of the *Yankee*, Asiatic Station, on the 15th August last, and has been placed on waiting orders.
Lieutenant E. F. Jacob, from the Coast Survey steamer *Blake*, and placed on waiting orders.
Passed Assistant Engineers A. Kirby and A. J. Kenyon, from monitor duty at New Orleans, and placed on waiting order.
Assistant Engineer N. H. Lamdin, from the *Manhattan*, and placed on waiting orders.
OCTOBER 19.—Commodore Peirce Crosby, from the Navy-yard, Washington, and placed on waiting orders.
Commander B. S. McCook, from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., and placed on waiting orders.
Lieutenants R. C. Hooker, James W. Carlin, and Edward W. Remy, from torpedo duty on the 24th inst., and ordered to the Hydrographic Office.
Lieutenants F. W. Crocker, F. Hanford, H. G. O. Colby, E. D. Taussig, L. C. Logan, and A. R. Couden, from torpedo duty on the 24th inst., and placed on waiting orders.
Lieutenant R. M. G. Brown, from torpedo duty on the 24th inst., and ordered as executive of the *Despatch* on the 29th inst.
Lieutenant J. M. Hawley and Master R. G. Peck, from torpedo duty on the 24th inst., and ordered to duty on the Coast Survey.
Master Theodorick Porter, from torpedo duty on the 24th inst., and placed on waiting orders.
Ensign John E. Roller, from the *Roanoke*, and ordered to duty in the North Pacific Station, per steamer of 24th inst.
Midshipman W. Alderdice, from the receiving ship *Potomac*, and ordered to duty in the North Pacific Station, per steamer of 24th inst.
OCTOBER 21.—Master John C. Irvine has reported his return home, having been detached from the *Omaha* on the 18th ultimo, and has been ordered to examination for promotion.
Assistant Engineer George C. Nelson has reported his return home, having been detached from the *Canandaigua* on the 18th inst., and has been placed on waiting orders.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

To Lieutenant-Commander Charles F. Blake for one year from the 16th inst., with permission to leave the United States.
To Ensign G. C. Hannus for three months from 1st November next.
To Ensign F. W. Nabor for two months from 1st November next.

PROMOTED.

Captain Peirce Crosby to be a commodore in the Navy from October 3, 1874, vice Commodore Woolsey, deceased.
Commander Lewis A. Kimberly to be a captain in the Navy from October 3, 1874, vice Captain Crosby, promoted.
Passed Assistant Paymaster Geo. H. Griffing to be a paymaster in the Navy from October 3, 1874, vice Paymaster W. F. A. Torbert, deceased.

REVOKED.

The orders of Ensign S. A. Staunton, to the *Narragansett*, and ordered to resume duties at the Hydrographic Office.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General, for the week ending October 21, 1874:

Thomas Morrison, beneficiary, October 13, Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.
John O'Dowd, first class fireman, October 13, U. S. steamer *Ajazz*, Navy-yard, Pensacola.
Peter Ackerman, beneficiary, October 17, Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

SPEECHES BY GENERAL SHERMAN.

GENERAL SHERMAN made two or three characteristic little speeches at the meeting of the Army of the Tennessee in Springfield, Ill., last week, in his usual crisp and interesting manner. At the business meeting Wednesday morning, he said:

"I have been trying to make a speech all the morning and thought I had succeeded. But I assure you, gentlemen, it does surprise me more and more every day, and year after year—and we are getting to be old men—to see the interest you have taken in the associations of the Army—not you alone, but men of the Army of the Potomac and of the Cumberland and others, wherever you go—not only to see your interest in the subject before you, but the depth of it—something that is moving, and the society seems to have as much vitality to-day as it had in 1865. I do not see why, by making some changes, we do not adopt some fair rules of transmitting our titles to our children; not our privilege of rank, or pay, or anything of that kind, but simply the honor due to honorable deeds. Our forefathers, you may remember, laid their hands upon titles, as well as anything else that might prove a burden to the country, and rightfully, too. Yet Washington himself ordained the Society of the Cincinnati, which gave to the first-born of every member the rights of the father; and the Society of the Cincinnati lives to-day, and its inheritors to-day show their patriotism with as much pride as our children and grandchildren may claim their direct descent from the people who fought in the late war as we did. We, of course, are mortal, and I therefore favor that proposition which was thus foreshadowed by letting our rights go on down to our grandchildren, so that they may meet years hence and keep alive the pride which animates you here to-day. I don't want to be drawn into a speech, but we have come here to be entertained, and as I looked back of me here I saw several gentlemen who I thought wanted to make a speech. No doubt they are nursing their interest for the supper, and I am glad they are doing it. When the time comes I know they will make well-digested speeches, which I know you will listen to with pleasure; and I must also keep clear for the coming occasion, for I know I will have to say something again, and I must not show all I have at once. You gentlemen here are in the prime of life. In 1861 nobody expected we were going to have war. Some people did. Of course some feared we were going to have war, but not many. So now if anybody should say we are going to have another war ten years hence you would not believe it, because you don't see any cause. There is no cause in the next five years for war. But there may be war. Every people in the world have bad men among them; there are devils running loose everywhere, in Illinois as well as in Austria. And sometimes the bad will equal or outnumber the good, when, in our form of government, they will have the reins in their hands. Therefore the military spirit which was developed in our country in the late four years of civil war was a godsend to us as a people, and you, gentlemen, are now charged not only by ourselves, but by Almighty God to preserve that spirit fresh and pure and transmit it to your children, so that if an occasion should arise the true men of the country would rise up, organize, submit to the stern necessity of military authority, and, if required, will be ready to march through swamps and rain and mud, and endure privations and brave danger to preserve the Government we have inherited, and with the safety of which we are charged. It is now perfectly established among the nations of the earth, and we claim the honor of having helped to secure to it that homage, and to preserve it in its purity and grandeur. (Applause.) Therefore the life of a society with a noble past and a noble future, gentlemen, you cannot tell how much good it may do. And since I have been speaking some time, I see one of our most venerable and most beloved statesmen, who has come right into our presence—sent here—and I am going to have him up here now to say something strong to you. I mean Vice-President Wilson."

At the Opera-house, on the evening of the same day, after the welcoming speech by General Cullem, he said:

"Ladies and Gentlemen: By the published programme I see that Sherman is to make an address here to-night. In putting this on the programme the local committee overstepped the powers intrusted to them. But I have no trouble in making speeches to the Army of the Tennessee. When we come to talk of that our hearts speak and our thoughts flow out spontaneously. It is no trouble and no task to do this, for the old memories come back to us as if the events had happened yesterday. But General Hurlbut is here to speak at length to you, and I know he will speak eloquently and well. I only want to remind you fellows who marched through Alabama, Tennessee, and Georgia, of that campaign once more, and in order to do it the more vividly, I will say there is a quartet of gentlemen here from Chicago called the "Lumbards," and I call upon them to give us not one of their new-fangled songs, but one of the old familiar ones that you all love to hear." (Great laughter and cheering.)

PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE AMERICAN AND

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A CAPTAIN OF CAVALRY OF 1867 DESIRES TO TRANSFER TO THE INFANTRY.

MAUVELITO, care of ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

W. O. LINTHICUM, 174 FIFTH AVENUE, N. Y. MERCHANT TAILOR & REPORTER OF FASHIONS.

From the Army and Navy Journal of Jan. 31, 1874.
An enthusiasm for one's business or profession is not only admirable in itself but is the chief element of success, and it is that has given Mr. W. O. Linthicum, of 174 Fifth Avenue, New York, the distinction among tailors which secured for him the patronage of the Duke of Albany, as chief among his class. There is no college of tailors that we know of; if there were one Mr. Linthicum would, we doubt not, be chosen by acclamation to the presidency, or the chief professorship; for he is not only a good tailor himself, but is the cause of good tailoring in others, being the author of original systems for cutting published in book form, the editor of "Linthicum's Journal of New York Fashions," and the publisher of a great variety of patterns for coats, pants, and vests, which are furnished cut to measure or otherwise at a moderate price. Supplied with these officers at a distance from New York can make sure, wherever they are, of having their clothes made according to the most approved New York cut.

"Exposition Universelle de 1867 a Paris La Jury International des Arts et Metiers a décerné a W. O. Linthicum (New York Etats Unis) l'Agriculture et Industrie, Groupe IV, Classe 35, Vêtements, Paris, le 1er Juillet 1867. Le Conseiller d'Etat, Commissaire General P. Le Roy, Le Ministre Vice President de la Commission Imperiale de l'Exposition."

WM. CONARD, (late Chief of Paymaster's Division 4th Auditor's Office.)

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REFERENCES BY SPECIAL AGREEMENT.
General Sherman, U. S. Army, and lady, Washington, D. C.; Admiral David D. Porter, U. S. N., Washington, D. C.; Major-General G. G. Meade, U. S. Army, Philadelphia; General George, Sykes, U. S. Army; Brigadier-General I. N. Palmer, U. S. Army, Omaha, Neb.; Brigadier-General L. P. Graham, U. S. Army, Brigadier-General Wm. M. Graham, U. S. Army; Mrs. Admiral Dahlgren, Washington, D. C.; General S. D. Sturges, U. S. Army.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1874.

Office, No. 23 Murray Street, New York.

SUBSCRIPTION, SIX DOLLARS A YEAR.

ADMIRAL FOOTE.

THE life and adventures of this gallant naval officer have just been given to the world by Professor HOPPIN, of Yale College, published by HARPER AND BROTHERS, and they cannot fail to prove of great interest to every American naval officer. The work of the biographer has been done in a style unhappily too rare among literary men charged with similar work; for, instead of airing himself and his opinions, he has preferred to let his hero speak for himself. As a consequence, his book is full of that living interest which comes of copious quotations from the letters and journals of the deceased Admiral; and even those who before had but a hazy idea of FOOTE and his services, as belonging to that limbo of mistakes of 1861-2 which we would all willingly forget, cannot read far without realizing that ANDREW HULL FOOTE was a man of no common stamp, but one of those religious heroes that sometimes arise to prove that the Army and Navy may engender other than purely military virtues—a man like HAVELOCK or GARDINER. It is this impression that is uppermost in all the early part of his life, from the close of 1827.

Many people have an idea that FOOTE was a sort of freshwater sailor, and associate him with the exploits which illustrated the very closing scenes of his life, forgetting entirely his previous service of forty years afloat in the United States Navy, including much cruising off the coasts of China and Africa, and the storming of the Barrier Forts at Canton in 1856. We condense the following short sketch of his life from Professor HOPPIN's book.

ANDREW HULL FOOTE was born in New Haven, Conn., and went to school there. One of his schoolmates was GIDEON WELLES, to be associated with him in such momentous

scenes, fifty years later. He learned enough at school to pass for entry to West Point, where he remained but a few months, and finally went to sea as a midshipman in 1822, at sixteen years of age. For some years he behaved like other wild middies, and then came the sudden change that influenced all his future life.

"Foote had been up to this time four years and five months constantly at sea. It would seem as if he had earned the right to a little rest at home; but, as if it were expressly so planned by his superiors, he was to be allowed no time to display his midshipman's uniform ashore; and on the 26th of August, 1827, to his sore disappointment, he was sent off a second time to the West Indies for a brief cruise, first in the *Natchez* and afterward in the *Hornet*, to which he was transferred October 8, 1827. He had set his heart upon making a cruise with the Mediterranean squadron, for which station he applied. His hopes were not realized. Something better, however, than the gratification of his desires, or even the education of his mind, was in store for him. A change of character that raised him to a higher level of manhood awaited him on this short West India voyage. After he had been at sea some six weeks or two months, his mother received a letter from him, in which are these words: 'You may discharge your mind from anxiety about your wayward son.' The letter then went on to relate that one of the lieutenants of the ship had spoken to him soon after joining the *Natchez* on religious subjects, and, as his expression was, he had 'bluffed him off by saying that he had aimed to be honorable and honest in all things, and that would do for him. But, after getting on the station, upon a beautiful moonlight night, while riding quietly at anchor, the same officer and himself being on duty, the lieutenant spoke to him again about the subject of religion, and with such earnestness that, as he said, his 'knees for the first time bowed to his Maker'; and as soon as he was released from duty, he took his Bible and went into the stateroom, and read it under great agitation of mind. This he did for two weeks, when, upon going on deck one day, he came to the resolution that 'henceforth, under all circumstances, he would act for God,' upon which his mental anguish and trouble vanished. In this simple manner he recounts that event in his history which made him a new man, and a true Christian hero. It did not make him over into a perfect character, but he was established now on right principles, and a high and pure impulse was given to his life; and take that life through, at sea and on shore, in battle and at peace, in success and adversity, in life and death, we shall find that, by divine aid, he carried out the resolution made in his youth that 'he would act for God.'"

Twelve years later we find him at work at one of the greatest reforms that has yet been accomplished in the American Navy, though now forgotten. It was when Lieutenant FOOTE, in command of the Philadelphia Naval Asylum, that he entered on this work, as told by his biographer:

"At the Philadelphia Asylum, during a period of considerable excitement, owing to certain local controversies and unsettled questions in relation to organization and government, he began that course of thorough moral reform which he carried through his whole career. By dint of unceasing persuasion, he prevailed upon the pensioners of the asylum to take the temperance pledge, or, as an 'old salt' would say, 'stop their grog.' He was one of the first to introduce the reform of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks into the Navy; and it was well understood that he was in thorough earnest in this matter, so that officers and men who were devoted to the use of liquor fairly understood that it would go hard with them if Foote was on judgment in cases of delinquency. Whether he sometimes carried this too far or not, all knew where he stood, and all were aware of the inflexible resolution he had taken to introduce the temperance reform into the Navy, in which determination he was successful. The Naval Asylum, in fact, made him a thorough temperance man. He said once in Philadelphia to his brother John: 'I made up my mind that as a naval officer I could not be a temperance man. I met with persons of all nations. I was obliged to conform to their customs. But when I came here I found these old sailors dreadful drunkards. Whenever I gave them any privilege, they invariably got drunk. I could do nothing with them. At last I signed the pledge myself, and then they followed me.' In a certain petition of the pensioners of the Naval Academy to the Honorable Secretary of the Navy—a characteristic sailors' document—Lieutenant Foote is thus spoken of: 'The gallant Commodore Biddle was our first governor. A brave man like him knew what old sailors wanted. He indulged the good men, and brought the bad men into good order; and when he left us, we all to a man wished he had been left alone. The proper rooms were allotted by him to us, and the officers treated us like men. When he went away, Commodore Barron came, who commanded us as an old commodore ought to command old seamen like himself. He was ready to listen to us and to see our wants supplied, and may God bless

him, and Biddle too, for both were old sailors' friends, which we put into the newspapers which you have read. When Commodore Barron left us, he left Lieutenant Foote to command. He has done us a great deal of good in making us all sober men. We once thought that old sailors could not do without grog. Now there is not a man in the house who draws his grog, and we feel like human beings, and hate the sin of getting drunk. We now understand the Word of God as it is written in the Bible, with which we are supplied, and hope our latter days will be better than our former lives have been. As old men, we wanted and have had quiet and peace of mind and body.'"

Three years later we find him in a famous ship and doing still more famous duty.

"In the summer of 1843 (Aug. 26) he was ordered, as first-lieutenant, to the flag-ship *Cumberland*, fifty guns, under Captain Breese. J. A. Dahlgren and others who have since won for themselves distinction were lieutenants and fellow-officers with Foote in this cruise of the *Cumberland*. This vessel bore at her peak the pennant of Commodore Joseph Smith, who on his return from this cruise was made Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks at Washington, and who, with Captain Breese, bore a distinguished part in the last war with Great Britain, especially in the battle of Lake Champlain. Commodore Smith proved to be Foote's life-long and perhaps his most loved and trusted friend, and is himself a genial and noble-hearted Christian man. Commodore Smith soon appreciated Foote's working qualities, and in one of his earliest letters he says: 'Would you be willing to go to Norfolk if I should go there? as that is a place of work, and requires energetic officers.' He told Foote that he wished him to be always associated with himself, and he regarded him 'as his mainmast.' The *Cumberland* sailed from Boston for the Mediterranean on the 20th of November, 1843. When taking the stores on board for the voyage, some of the men got an opportunity to tap a barrel of whisky, and made themselves drunk. Trouble ensued: some of them insulted and attacked one of the officers, and were consequently flogged. Foote took the opportunity to form a temperance society, beginning with the officers, and being sustained and encouraged by the commodore. The movement became popular, and soon all the sailors but one consented to commute their grog-rations for money; and that solitary one, coming up every day to receive his grog, became a laughing-stock, and was soon got rid of. The spirit-room was emptied of its contents, and the whole crew, with the exception of the one veteran toper, joined the movement, so that the *Cumberland* became the first temperance ship in the United States Navy; and how interesting is this, when we think of the future fate of this vessel, selected to be the martyr ship of our civil war; when, in the terrible fight with the iron-clad and iron-beaked *Merrimac*, with her flag flying and her crew cheering, she delivered her last fire at her country's foes, and went down unconquered and unsullied in her pure renown. The effects of the temperance reform on the *Cumberland* were visible in the excellent discipline of the ship, showing that the moral element is the basis of the highest and most efficient military discipline."

FOOTE lived to see the spirit ration abolished and temperance the rule of the American Navy.

Seven years later, in 1850, he was in command of the brig *Perry*, off the coast of Africa. Here his activity in breaking up the slave trade was untiring, till his health gave way. Then he was sent home and passed four years ashore, during which he became a well known temperance and religious lecturer, his most prominent trait as an officer being the fearlessness with which he avowed his religious principles despite ridicule and opposition. In 1856 he was ordered to China in the *Portsmouth*, and there executed his famous bombardment of the Canton Barrier Forts, in reprisal for a shot fired by the Chinese at his boat in the river. FOOTE's firm conduct really paved the way for the BURLINGAME treaty, a few years later; for the Chinese, like all Orientals, are never so friendly as after a thrashing. Foote came back in 1858, and after a few months' rest took command of the Brooklyn Navy-yard, where he remained till the breaking out of the civil war. With his exploits there our readers are probably familiar. We hope to return to them at a future day.

The fourth of the series of experiments of attack on the *Oberon*, by a stationary torpedo, has taken place in England. The experimental attacks began by the electrical explosion of a sunken mine of 500 lbs. of the Waltham Abbey disc gun-cotton, confined in a service mine case, and saturated with a certain percentage of fresh water, at a horizontal distance of 100 ft. from the nearest side of the *Oberon*, the mine when fired at suitable tide time having a head of 49 ft. of water over it. The *Oberon* has a draught of

water, mean, of 11 ft. 3 in.; consequently the centre of the case containing the gun-cotton lay on its bed on the shoal at a vertical depth of as nearly as possible 36 ft. below the *Oberon's* keel, but away from it, according to the distance at which the mine was fired. The first attack by the mine was harmless, and the same may be said of the second attack, made at a distance of 80 ft., and also of the third attack at 60 ft. distance. In all the attacks made, including the one we are about to describe, the strength of the mine was precisely the same, and it was fired on all four occasions with the same depth of water over it; the only change in the conditions being in the decreased distances given on each occasion.

At the close of the third experiment the ship was docked, and careful examination showed that the torpedo mine had left unmistakable marks on her bottom, though the damage amounted to nothing at all. They showed, however, that the mine was at last brought nearly close enough to accomplish serious work. So the distance for the fourth experiment was decreased by only ten instead of, as before, twenty feet; the distance from the torpedo to the *Oberon* was made 50 feet, instead of 40 feet, as at first intended. The preparations on board the *Oberon*, to ensure the floating of the vessel after the explosion of the mine until she could be placed in dock, were also as comprehensive as they well could be. The iron ballast was all taken out, and empty water casks and closed iron tanks put on board in its stead, the weight above that of the tanks and casks required to bring the vessel down to her required draught being given by water pumped into some of the tanks. Ships' hand-pumps were fixed in the several hatchways wherever they could be worked, and supplemented by ships' fire-engines to pump out the water entering the ship through any possible breach made by the torpedo or mine. Another precautionary measure was taken by lashing part of an old sail to the ship's bulwarks immediately above the position of the condenser, and where the greatest shock would come upon the double-bottom from the explosion of the mine, weighting the opposite extremity of the sail with iron ballast, and rolling all up against the vessel's topsides, secured there by slight rope-yarn stops in readiness to throw the lower part overboard to fall over any hole made in the double-bottom, and thus add, in seamanlike fashion, to the ship's floating power by checking the ingress of water.

On the day of the experiment, the weather was altogether favorable. The usual upheaval of the column of water from the crater made by the explosion, followed the firing of the mine, and as the outer vortex of this disturbance struck under the ship's starboard side, she rose up to the motion of the thrown-up waves of water to a height of several feet above the level of the surrounding water, and fell again into the midst of the outer swell surging up on the crater's edge. She rolled heavily for some two or three minutes, and looked very like going to the bottom. But the pumps and fire-engines having been manned, and the sail cloth we have referred to made use of, the *Oberon* was found to be still well afloat, and tugs started with her for the dock. On the way, no damage to the hull could be discovered from the inside, and the pumps were only necessary to get rid of the water that had fallen in board. But on docking her, the real damage was exposed. Rivets were started, the outlet pipe from the condenser (of iron and about 12 in. diameter) split longitudinally between the outer and the inner iron skins of the double-bottom, and all the flanges of the condenser's sea connections were damaged. The enormous and instantaneous pressure given to the sides of the double-bottom nearest the mine by the explosion of the latter was found to have driven—in the outer plating between the frames—the vertical frames exhibiting this feature more than the horizontal frames—into a series of flat arches that told in unmistakable terms what might have happened had the force spent in doing this have found only a small opening in the plating for its entrance. Yet the vessel's floating power was not at all affected. How far such a shock in manner and degree would have affected an iron-clad moving past a mine under similar conditions with full boilers and moving engines is now the question.

The London *Engineering* remarking on the experiment says: "What the results would have been if the *Oberon* had presented 9,000 tons of inertia to

the blow, as would the *Hercules*, instead of only 1,000 tons, may be pretty well imagined. It would hardly have been possible for her to have survived the shock of the explosion." This must be very encouraging to the advocates of stationary mines for harbor defence. According to this eminent authority the larger and heavier the iron clad is, the easier it is to destroy her. Her liability to destruction, it seems, increases with her size, so that applying the theory to the *Inflexible* and the other vessels which are to terrify the world, we find that they would be destroyed with a much less charge than was insufficient to put even the *Oberon hors du combat*! We wish we could accept the conclusion, but if a vessel with the scantling of the *Oberon* could withstand the explosion, for our part, we should conclude that one with scantling so much stronger, as that of the *Hercules* is, would offer more resistance to the explosion, and escape with proportionally less damage.

The experiments as a whole show, what we have all along contended, that the mine to be really effective must be exploded more nearly in contact with the vessel than those who have advocated this species of torpedo defence are willing to admit.

THE annual report of the Paymaster-General which we publish this week, shows a business of over seventeen millions transacted during the fiscal year ending June 30, of which twelve millions went into the hands of the Army, a balance of nearly three millions remaining in the hands of the paymasters at the end of the year, and over a million and one-half more having been returned to the Treasury.

The number of re-enlistments has been 1,400 in excess of the previous year, and there has, we are glad to say, been a considerable falling off in the number of desertions, the decrease, 2,600 in all, showing how large the percentage has heretofore been. This indicates an improved feeling among the enlisted men which General ALVORD ascribes to the gradual increase of pay and the system of soldiers' deposits provided for by the act of May 15, 1872. The sum deposited is sixty-five per cent. in excess of last year, and the number of depositors has more than doubled, numbering now full one-fourth of the Army, or 4,971 in all, with a total deposit of \$346,609. As this is all forfeited on desertion it constitutes a bond for good behavior. It is urged, and with good reason, that the interest on these deposits should be increased to six per cent. The average amount of deposits per company during the year has been largest in the Department of Arizona, viz.: \$1,876.66; next in Department of Missouri, \$1,299.89; next in Department of Dakota, \$1,208.64. As occurred the previous year, the deposits have been largest where the troops have been most in the field for active operations.

The annuity scheme of General FRY receives the approval of the Paymaster-General who finds by an examination of the records for fifty years that the average annual death rate, including deaths in war has been 24.1 per thousand as compared with a rate of twenty-one per thousand among males over twenty-one years of age, given in the English life tables pp. 18, 19. The report of General ALVORD is an unusually interesting one, and we commend it to the attention of our readers.

THE Missionary Bishop of Nevada and Arizona, Bishop WHITAKER, in his annual report to the Episcopal Board of Missions, alludes in very complimentary terms to General CROOK and his work in Arizona, which he evidently thinks partakes somewhat of the missionary character. Bishop WHITAKER found a great improvement in the condition of things in Arizona, and this he says, "has been brought about mainly by the wise and humane management of Indian affairs by General CROOK. I had the pleasure of meeting him at his headquarters, and of becoming acquainted with him, and became satisfied that the high opinion which the people of Arizona generally entertained of him is well founded. His policy I am convinced is the true one. He is prompt and severe against those who break their treaties, or begin war; but he is generous and kind toward those who wish for peace, and will keep their word. The Indian has no better friend than General CROOK, and the Apaches are fast coming to understand him, and to trust him. If any man can bring them into peaceable relations with the white population, I am sure it will be done by him."

Of the Army officers generally, the Bishop evidently formed a high opinion. He says: "I received all the kindness from officers of the Army at the different posts, from business men and citizens everywhere that it was possible to show me, and I became acquainted with many whose friendship I value."

THE third triennial reunion of the Society of the Army of the James took place at New York on Wednesday, at the theatre of the Union League Club. There was a large attendance, including many ladies, and on the platform and in the audience was a full representation of distinguished officers of the Army of the James, and of the Army generally. On the platform were General Joseph R. Hawley, of Connecticut, Admiral Rowan, Generals Butler, Hancock, Gough and Shaw; the poet of the occasion, Dr. Holland; General Charles K. Graham, of New York; General Adelbert Ames, of Mississippi; General Orrin L. Mann, late Colonel Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, of Illinois; General Galusha Pennypacker, U. S. A.; General Charles J. Paine, of Massachusetts, and others. General Hawley presided, and, after a brief opening address, introduced General B. F. Butler, the orator of the occasion, who at length reviewed the history of the Army of the James and celebrated its deeds. He was frequently applauded. Dr. Holland read the poem. The business meeting followed. Major Howell offered resolutions expressing an indorsement by the Society of the late resolutions of the Society of the Army of the Potomac urging on Congress the reopening of the case of Major General Fitz John Porter. These were warmly opposed by General Kiddoo and others, and were finally tabled. The Committee on Badges reported and presented a specimen badge recommended for the use of the Society, which was adopted. A resolution was passed tendering the thanks of the Society to General Butler, the orator, and Dr. Holland, the poet of the occasion. General J. R. Hawley was appointed orator for the next reunion. General Graham proposed that the constitution of the Society, which provides that their meetings be held triennially, should be amended, and the meetings henceforth be held annually. This proposition, modified by the suggestion of General Hawley, that the next meeting be held during the centennial in Philadelphia, in 1876, was adopted. The Committee on nomination of officers for the ensuing term reported the following names, which were adopted: President, Major General A. H. Terry; Vice-Presidents, Major General Godfrey Weitzel, E. W. Serrell, N. M. Curtis, G. H. Gordon; Treasurer, Brigadier General C. H. Carleton; Corresponding Secretary, Colonel J. H. Lowell; Recording Secretary, Major W. E. Kisselburgh; Chaplain, Rev. W. H. Thomas. General Hawley then resigned the chair, to which, in the absence of General's Terry and Weitzel, General E. W. Serrell was called. General Serrell returned thanks in behalf of himself and his colleagues for the honor which had been conferred on them. The following gentlemen were elected honorary members of the Society: General Rufus Ingalls, General J. Langdon Ward, Hon. Stewart L. Woodford, Hon. John M. Francis and General W. S. Hancock.

At the banquet at evening, held at the rooms of the Union League Club, the guests numbered about seventy-five. Letters were read from the President of the United States, the General-in-Chief of the Army, Governor Dix, Generals Sheridan, Hancock, Terry, Gibbon, and many others. Speeches in response to toasts were made by General Hawley, Colonel Drake DeKay, Mr. George W. Lyons, Major Howell, General Kiddoo, Surgeon H. M. Wells, U. S. N., General James B. Shaw, General Butler, and the Rev. H. J. Trumbull, of Hartford, Ct. The reunion was in every respect a delightful one.

COLONEL GOURAUD, whose letter to his comrades of the Ninth Army Corps, appears elsewhere, writes us from St. Petersburg, that as Managing Director of the Pullman Palace Car Company, he has been taking a trip of some ten thousand miles through Europe, having come to St. Petersburg on one of the company's cars, via Dunkerque, Paris, Mount Cenis tunnel, Milan, Florence, Rome, Naples, Venice, Vienna, Dresden, Leipzig, Frankfurt, Berlin, etc., and after a run over a considerable portion of Russia also. Who would not be a Managing Director?

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL FREDERICK D. GRANT, Second Lieutenant 4th Cavalry, was married at Chicago, on the 20th to Miss Honore of that city. Among those present at the wedding were the President, Mrs. Grant, U. S. Grant, Jr.; Jesse Grant, Vice-President Wilson, General Sherman, Secretary Borie; Secretary Belknap and wife, General Sheridan, General Babcock, General Rucker and wife, General T. L. Crittenden, Col. J. C. Audenried, General Custer and wife, General Stuart, Van Vliet, General Ord, and others.

MR. H. B. LEDYARD, formerly first lieutenant, Fourth United States Artillery, and of the West Point Class of 1865, was October 15, appointed Assistant General Superintendent of the Michigan Central Railroad, with headquarters at Detroit.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL* does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

THE NAVAL RESERVE CORPS.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*.

SIR: Since you have deemed it proper to publish an announcement in your editorial columns, relative to the projected plan of a reserve corps of officers, formed from the graduates of the Naval Academy, and to be amenable for duty only in time of war, I beg room for an explanation of the scheme and of the benefits to be gained thereby. I regret the publication of your editorial, since the want of maturity in the plan renders it hardly suitable for general consideration; and permit me to add, the tone of your comments is not exactly that calculated to predispose the active officers in the service in favor of the scheme.

Many of your readers are doubtless aware that at the time of the *Virginus* trouble, offers to return to the Navy were transmitted to the Department in large numbers, by ex-officers. These were in every case declined, with the assurance, however, as I am informed, that the Government would, in case such services were needed, not hesitate to accept the proposals. To this circumstance, coupled with others which I shall allude to further on, is due in a measure the project which as you have stated will probably be made the subject of a petition to the coming Congress.

The gist of our plan is that we, graduates of the Academy, who have honorably left the service, ask to be organized into a corps to be known as the Reserves. We wish to be borne on the register in a separate list, and to hold the rank and number which we would have had, had we never resigned. We ask no pay whatever—nor do we in the slightest degree interfere with the duties or promotion of the active officers. Each man of us follows the course of the active officer who formerly held the preceding number; when he goes up a grade we go with him. In order that the Government may be posted as to our whereabouts, we agree to report our addresses and occupations once a year or whenever we make changes—and such addresses and occupations are to appear on the register with our names. In case of war, we are subject to the call of the Secretary, and are then placed in our proper positions on the active list with our regular classes. We are not to go to sea, but to assume the work of drilling recruits, manning yards, and harbor defence iron-clads, duty in equipment and ordnance bureaus, in powder or nitre stations, or on receiving ships, and in brief, performing to such an extent as our numerical strength will allow, such duties as will release a corresponding number of active officers from shore service, and allow of their proceeding at once to sea.

Such is a brief outline of the plan—now a few words as to its expediency, and in answer in advance to certain objections which will doubtless be urged. First, as to the benefits to be derived by Government. We offer, as citizens not subject to military rule, to submit ourselves to a law which may abridge our personal liberty, so that the country may have at its instant call a body of men educated to discipline, and who not merely understanding the traditions of the service, have also acquired in the years of their absence therefrom that knowledge of business life which fits them far better for coming in contact with the world than the officers who have remained. I need not point out that in dealing with contractors, with manufacturers, or even with the indiscriminate mass sent from the recruiting stations, we can perform the work easier—I doubt if better—than our old companions. Moreover, the Government knows us, root and branch—it has our records on file—it has trusted us once, and it can do so safely again. Can as much be said of any other body of men, equally fitted for the service—if such exist—to be found in the great public of this country? Second, as to what we expect to make by the scheme—not a cent of money, nor anything as a help to support. We ask our rank, and our uniform, if we choose to wear it, though a lawyer pleading his cause in spike-tail and swabs, or a doctor with a cocked hat, would be rather ludicrous if it were true. Our greatest gain is organization. No college is without its Alumni association, even West Point has one—we of the Naval Academy have none. Is it supposed that because we have doffed the blue and gold, for the plain coat of the "cit," that with our uniform we have thrown off every sentiment of regard, of affection for those with whom we have been so long associated? But there is absolutely nothing to attach us to our former comrades or even to each other. Scattered as we are all over the country, we cannot muster enough in a single place to start an association. With officers in the service, dispersed all over the world, such an attempt would be totally impracticable. Now, this reserve plan would unite us both to each other and to the active list. The latter could rest assured that they left behind them at home a body of men who would watch and work for their interests, on whom they could rely as earnest friends, while we would have the benefits of that intercourse, the pleasurable nature of which, scores of fraternities of college graduates bear abundant witness.

The next war in which this country engages must necessarily be waged mainly on the ocean, and while, as the Navy of the rebellion proved, there may be no lack of vessels, officers may not be so plenty. The result we all know then was, volunteers. Which set of men do the active list prefer to mingle with them: their old classmates, messmates, and shipmates, or a pack of merchantmen? For surely every one of us admitted to the active list would obviate the necessity of one volunteer. Besides, at the close of the war, we go back to our reserve list; where volunteers go,

the classes of '65-'66, and later dates can answer to their cost.

You suggest that the active list will object to our taking the "soft places," and in so doing convey a wrong impression of our wishes. The circumstance of the would-be volunteers of the *Virginus* trouble in itself repels the idea that we desire to shirk sea duty; on the contrary, we would take it eagerly—but can it not be conceived that we mistrust our own capabilities? We give up the places on the cruising vessels, because our seamanship, our gunnery, and our navigation are rusty—because we have necessarily forgotten much, and not learned a great deal. Other men are more fitted for such tasks. Again, who among the active officers is to be the first to say he prefers to remain at home rather than go to the front? I have very much mistaken the temper and courage of our Navy, if there be one man who would ask us to change places in time of danger. I am more deceived in those who are backing this scheme if they do not, when that time arrives, forget obligations and reserve lists, and beg the Government for sea orders, capable or not capable. Besides I, (and I dare say any other reader of your *JOURNAL* also, Mr. Editor,) would very much hate to be in the shoes of the individual who would dare to object to his orders on such a plea. I fear his reputation for zeal—if not for personal courage—would be seriously impaired.

Others far more capable than the writer have this matter in hand, and doubtless will push it vigorously. I have merely endeavored to jot down such thoughts as would be likely to bring the plan more clearly to the eyes of the service. That there will be carpers at our motive I am well aware; others will doubtless impugn the idea of our having rank, with no absence from home or attendant disadvantages of naval life. Such I ask to remember, that while they have lived these past years in absolute security under the protection of a certain, sure, and definite source of income, we have met and struggled with the world, began life as it were anew, and carved for ourselves positions in the face of difficulties, of disappointments, of disheartening obstacles, of which they little know. We confess that we miss our former condition, we avoid the decks of men-of-war, or the Navy-yards, for trivial as to some it may seem, we feel that lack of the consideration of the respect which was ours, when our right there was undoubted.

With an apology for so long a trespass on your valuable space, I join with you in asking discussion of this subject by the officers of the service. P. B.—'67.

DISBURSING OFFICERS.

Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*.

SIR: To disburse, under the existing laws, the funds appropriated for the support of the Quartermaster's and Subsistence Departments of the U. S. Army, and the general recruiting service, has been often found a matter of difficulty. The laws require bonded disbursing officers to receive and expend moneys, and provide a fixed number in the two departments above named, but none in the recruiting service. The vast extent of territory over which the Army is scattered, and the large number of military posts occupied by small garrisons, render necessary the use of a larger number of officers in these departments, than the law provides. This need is supplied by the detail of unbonded junior officers, who are required to perform the duties of assistant-quartermasters and of commissaries of subsistence, and who have been permitted and compelled to receive and disburse moneys in these capacities. Great delay and confusion in making payments for purchases and labor have been results of this system, and perhaps an increase of expenditures proportioned to the delay. For an example, a company of troops is stationed at a small interior post, and is allowed by regulations a certain fixed quantity of supplies, say of fuel, straw and forage. The Chief Quartermaster of the Department annually contracts for a supply of these articles. The articles are furnished at the different stations, and payment therefor is expected, but it does not come. What is the reason for this delay? Under the present system, the post quartermaster submits an estimate of the funds needed to make the payments, a month in advance of the time when they are due, and this estimate winds its weary way through Department and Division Headquarters up to the Quartermaster-General, who, when he fills it, returns the funds through the same channels, and at length, after a lapse of two and even three months, the money reaches the post for payment, and even then in the form of a check or draft, which can only be negotiated after great trouble, and sometimes discount.

The troops again are given by law a certain sum of money as pay and allowances, which is paid them through bonded disbursing officers of the Pay Department, who make bi-monthly payments to more than thirty thousand individuals. The only assistance received at the hands of any other officers is in the preparation of accounts for payment. The time of a paymaster's arrival at a post is always known approximately. As soon as the accounts are received, sometimes even before, he has his money in hand. This is owing to the fact that he is but one remove from the paymaster-general. That this is the true reason seems apparent from the fact, that a post quartermaster, who deals directly with the quartermaster-general, in matters which refer to National cemeteries, invariably receives moneys for these objects, long before he does for objects which come under other heads of an Army appropriation bill, about which he deals through intermediate channels. That the quartermaster-general handles all the funds primarily is known. The Pay Department completes its work promptly, with ready money, because the vouchers upon which payments are made are partially prepared for it by other officers, and its

officials travel to the different stations and make their disbursements in person.

The Quartermaster's Department deals with a much smaller number of individuals, has its office at every post, who superintends the preparation of the vouchers, and under the present system pays them. The Subsistence Department deals with even a still smaller number of individuals, and makes use of facilities of the same kind.

There would seem to be no good reason why the bonded quartermaster and commissary should not be ordered to make monthly or bi-monthly tours, as the paymaster now does, and make similar and prompt cash payments, and fulfil the requirements of the laws. It may be objected, that, as the Quartermaster's Department furnishes but one bonded officer at Department Headquarters, the absence of this person from his office would materially delay business. If it be the case, the remedy is simple, and lies in furnishing an assistant, an unbonded officer, who can attend to all matters save receiving and disbursing moneys, during the absence of his chief. Many officers competent to fill this position can easily be found. This detail would be a very grateful and proper promotion for the most competent of the officers, who are now performing similar duties at posts.

As for the recruiting service, the amount annually expended under this head is trifling. The recruiting stations are few in number and accessible easily. A single bonded disbursing officer of either the Quartermaster's, Pay or Subsistence Departments, could make all the payments and would have a very pleasant and easy duty.

It is time that old and vicious practices, invented to throw money accountably from the shoulders of older and more experienced officers upon younger subalterns of less experience, should cease. An unbonded officer who receives and disburses money can hope for no relief at the hands of Congress, should fire or robbery happen, by which money for which he is accountable is lost, because he acts in violation of law, though he obeys military orders in so doing. SIXTEENTH.

COLFAX, LA., October 7, 1874.

NINTH ARMY CORPS.

To the Association of the Burnside Expedition and Ninth Army Corps:

COMRADES: A foreign paper reprints the "extraordinary resolution" of our society "inviting their ancient and bitter enemies to meet them in friendly union at the next annual meeting," etc.

Such a proceeding cannot be understood in European countries, and I doubt indeed if it were possible under like circumstances in any other country than America. America is truly a country of extraordinary example. In this we have another instance of that pre-eminent progress of civilization in our young Republic. I hail this evidence from the far-off capital of Russia, where it reaches me, with delight, and hasten to send and am anxious to record my vote of approval to a resolution which I trust was passed without a dissenting voice. I felicitate the comrade who proposed it, whose name I do not know, but which I hope will be enrolled upon the records in letters of imperishable lines, accompanied by the resolution, and surrounded by the names of all those so happy as to endorse it—to which I pray add mine by proxy.

At that meeting of veterans there will be a mutual feeling as thorough and intense, I know, for friendship and forgiveness, as moved the same hearts in battle when last they met on those well contested fields of Tennessee.

May you have "better cheer" than then, and may I be there to share the pleasant contrast with you.

Yours in affectionate remembrance,

GEORGE E. GOURAUD.

Formerly Adjutant and Captain, Third N. Y. Cavalry; A. D. C. Staff Major-General J. G. Foster; Special Inspector of Cavalry, Depart. Ohio; Asst. Inspector General, Dept. South.

ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA, Sept. 15—27, 1874.

MARKSMEN IN THE ARMY.

SOME NOTES OF A VOLUNTEER OFFICER FURNISHED TO THE N. Y. TIMES.

THE very remarkable sharp-shooting of the Irish and American marksmen at Creedmoor lately has recalled to mind some notable instances of practice with small-arms by our volunteers during the rebellion. They are narrated, not as illustrating any large degree of skill in the use of the rifle by our soldiers in time of war, but as indicating the average effect of the rifled musket in the hands of the volunteer soldier.

One of the captains of my regiment (One Hundred and Fourteenth New York) was fond of telling a strange experience of one of the privates of his company when he served in the Ellsworth regiment—the Forty-fourth New York. The man was a soldier, who was as green as a soldier well can be; he had never before been in action, nor even heard a shot fired in enmity. The occasion was during the Peninsular campaign—at Williamsburg, I think—when this soldier was suddenly precipitated into action. While loading and firing in the most determined and nonchalant way, he met with an experience which is not at all uncommon to new soldiers—he fired off his ramrod. Advancing with his detachment at the close of the contest, and passing over the ground which had been occupied by the Confederates, he found one of the latter literally pinned to a tree with a ramrod, stone dead. He always thought, and with good reason, that this casualty was caused by his own inadvertence in making ammunition of his ramrod.

The situation at Port Hudson for a month or five weeks following the 1st day of June, 1863, was peculiar

and exciting. Each of the armies lay perfectly sheltered in its rifle-pits, or behind the slopes of the hills, and on either side, along the eccentric course of the ravine which separated the hills behind which the combatants were entrenched, they lay in the rifle-pits, rifle in hand, ready to fire at the least indication of life or motion opposite. In places these rifle pits were separated from each other on different sides by, perhaps, a width of three hundred yards, and although it would not be thought much of at Creedmoor, yet we used to think it fair shooting when one of our men was killed or wounded by a bullet entering the little aperture, not more than an inch and a half square, in the log which capped the earth-works, and which was cut for the purpose of protruding our muskets and taking sight. I recall one most curious instance of the effect of the Confederate sharp-shooting at Port Hudson at this time. On one moonlight night a detail from my company was manning the rifle-pit in our front. Shots had been exchanged during the evening between this detachment and that of the Confederates opposite, so that the general position of each party was known. One of the soldiers of my company had just advanced his musket through the loop-hole, and with his eye on the sights, was waiting for some auspicious appearance, or some movement on the other side, to fire at. It must have been that some Confederate, just opposite, similarly engaged, caught the gleam of the moonlight on the well-polished barrel of Chappell's musket, and fired at it. Certain it was that a bullet from the enemy's rifle-pits entered the loophole behind which Chappell was watching, coursed along down his gun-barrel, severing both hands, and passed through the palm of his hand. This was, of course, no chance shot; and the stories of remarkable rifle-shot wounds which we heard from the Confederates after they had yielded Port Hudson to us, inclined me to think that our fire was not less accurate than that of the enemy. Indeed, two armies practicing at each other for a series of days or weeks from covered rifle-pits gain an accuracy at a range something less than a thousand yards which our accomplished marksmen of Creedmoor might not be ashamed of. The casualties on either side at Vicksburg or Port Hudson, if collected and reduced to an average, would show an astonishing proficiency in accuracy of rifle practice, especially when it is remembered that both sides were generally armed with no better weapon than the Springfield or Enfield rifled musket—either one a very good arm, to be sure, but not capable of fine shooting at long range.

And yet it is wonderful to recall what was accomplished by the soldiers on both sides with these arms during the rebellion. Perhaps the best illustration of the possibility of terrible execution with them, at a range of hardly two hundred yards, is afforded in Sheridan's battle of Winchester, September 19, 1864—which, it will be remembered, resulted in the breaking up and flight of Early's army up the Shenandoah Valley. Speaking now of the contest on the right of our line, where the One Hundred and Fourteenth, the One Hundred and Sixteenth, and the One Hundred and Fifty-third New York "went in" and stubbornly held their position against the enemy during the long hours of that beautiful Autumn afternoon—so beautiful that not all the smoke from cannon and musketry could obscure the brightness of the sun—I may describe it as a battle waged with the rifled musket, at the distance mentioned, and waged with a stubbornness and persistency that made the result sanguinary in the extreme. These and other regiments, coming upon the line at double-quick, opened a rapid fire, the men standing upright as they loaded and fired. But at short range no troops will long stand upright before a hostile fire, and the casualties in our ranks soon compelled our men to prostrate themselves on the ground; and the battle was fought out by both armies hugging the ground as closely as possible. Good people who affect to smile at the "ridiculous" postures of the riflemen at Creedmoor, lying on their backs, their bellies and their sides, may be assured that these gentlemen only follow the practice of skirmishers and soldiers on line of battle at short range, in time of war. I am speaking now of the battle of Winchester, because it affords the best illustration within my experience of deadly and effective fire of small arms during the war. No doubt a dozen other like instances could be named. As the fire of the enemy grew intolerably fatal, our line dropped to the ground, and there loaded and fired. Some loaded on their backs, and turned over to fire; some loaded on the side, and fired lying on the belly; some fired from the knee; but very few stood upright, even to fire. Yet it is almost incredible to believe the havoc that was made upon this line during that afternoon. Out of three hundred and fifty present, rank and file, the One Hundred and Fourteenth New York lost one hundred and eighty-eight, or more than one-half. We had in front of us Kershaw's division, all veterans of three years' standing, and we, on our side, were almost as well seasoned in point of time. The bullets of the enemy did not pass over head; they hissed through the long grass, searching out their victims with deadly accuracy. Men were killed by my side as they lay prone on their faces, the ball striking them in the head or breast, and so persistent was the low range of the fire that the dry grass in front of us was set on fire by the enemy's cartridges, and burned during a good part of the afternoon.

I was anxious to discover whether the fire of our line, delivered by the men on their backs, on their faces, and, as I actually saw in one instance, from behind the body of a fallen comrade, had produced a like deadly effect to that of the Confederates. The appearance of the ground in our immediate front, as we passed over it about 5 o'clock, strewn with gray-coated bodies, might have answered in the affirmative; but I had direct evidence on the subject a few days afterward from a wounded soldier of Kershaw's division, at Strasburg.

"We were opposite the Nineteenth Corps at Winches-

ter," he said, "and though I have been in the Confederate service for three years, I never saw such slaughter before. The men fell right and left; they were struck down so fast that I could hardly believe they were really knocked over, but thought, very wrongly, that they were shamming."

I am not, of course, suggesting the difference between shooting at targets at Creedmoor, and at men on the battle-field. But I cannot help remarking about the positions for firing assumed by the marksmen at Creedmoor, that it would be no easy task for any of them to invent a position that was not used either in skirmish or battle by our volunteers during the war. And while I say this, I yield profound admiration for the marksmanship displayed at Creedmoor by both natives and foreigners.

J. F. E.

THE GERMAN MANŒUVRES.

A MILITARY correspondent of the London *Times*, writing from Cologne, makes the following critical observations on the recent Berlin and Hanover manœuvres, of which he was a spectator. He premises that his object is to compare the present system with the Prussian model from which it is borrowed:

On the 7th and 8th of September one of the divisions of that splendid body of men the Guard Corps was split up into two little armies, each about 4,800 men strong, and complete in its different arms, and was manœuvred over an area of country situated between Oranienburg and Teschenhof, twenty-seven English miles north of Berlin. The "general idea," disencumbered of the suppositions and details to which the Germans are so greatly addicted, amounted to instructions given to General Dreschki, commanding the Southern army, to save Berlin from the danger with which it was menaced by the advance of the Northern Army under General Dregalski from Stettin. It may be mentioned that the former commander is an artillery officer. Indeed, it is worth noticing that in Prussia there is a marked readiness to employ in mixed commands officers of this branch of the service, and it is stated that these selections have generally been attended with the best results. I postpone for the present comment on the working of the different arms, but how strikingly similar to our own was the general nature of the operations was made manifest by the criticism which at the end of the second day's fighting was delivered by the Umpire-in-Chief, General von Pape, an officer of proved abilities during the recent war, and now looked upon as one of the most talented and rising of Prussian officers. General von Pape commented in detail and in a most lucid and masterly manner on the doings of the two preceding days, dwelling naturally much more on defects than on incidents calling for approbation. He pointed out that the cavalry patrols were of excessive strength, he severely censured them for the insufficiency of information obtained, and he found fault with the cavalry commanders for their constant tendency to disjoin themselves from the rest of the army and to fight independent actions. Two infantry battalions had been brought face to face with each other under such an equality of advantages that in mimic warfare it was impossible to assign the palm to either, and the umpire strongly urged upon commanding officers the expediency of avoiding such absurdities. Another commanding officer was rebuked for having presumed to initiate a small action on his own account after the prescribed hour for the cessation of active operations in his anxiety to obtain possession of a village which he considered necessary for the safety of his outposts. The artillery was reproved for want of ability in failing to select the most sheltered positions, and for having come into action on one occasion at impossible ranges, and on another within a few hundred yards of a wood filled with skirmishers. The extension of troops on both sides was pronounced to have been too great—4,800 men over about 2,000 yards—and one of the general officers was criticised pretty sharply for having actively utilised his "Flag Troops," instead of placing them, according to instructions, in the reserves. These flag troops consist of small bodies of about twenty men with a bandolier, each party representing a battalion, or, if furnished with a single gun, a battery. They furnish most convenient opportunities of instruction by being added as sudden reinforcements to either side, and thus necessitating constantly fresh combination. As a general rule, they are posted with the reserves, and are as little as possible actively employed.

Monday, the 14th of September, was devoted to an inspection and march past, when the entire force, about 20,000 strong, turned out, on the whole, in first-rate order. Of their infantry, considered as individual battalions, it is impossible to speak in terms other than those of unqualified admiration. The physique of the men, their smart, soldier-like appearance, their steadiness in the ranks, and the accuracy of drill, combine to render them not inferior to our best English regiments. Their marching past in steady, compact masses was absolutely splendid. Their cavalry were a fine body of men, who rode well, were capitally mounted, and ranked past at a walk, trotted, and galloped with precision. Perhaps their well-bred Hussar horses were a trifle too light, and their heavy Dragoons were a little too clumsy. Their horse appointments, however, were dirty in the extreme, notwithstanding that for the special occasion of the review new equipments had, apparently, been issued. The same remark applies to the artillery. Of their working in the field I have yet to speak, but their general appearance on parade was decidedly slovenly, and there can be little doubt that were the very slackest of our batteries to venture to present themselves in public turned out in the style of crack Prussian batteries their condition would be pronounced eminently creditable.

On the whole I think few would dispute we should have no difficulty in mustering one force fully equal, if not superior, to the Tenth Army Corps. But, suppos-

ing that by the fortunes of war both were suddenly wiped out of existence, the Germans could produce almost *ad infinitum* fresh bodies equally excellent, while we should be compelled to fall back on second and third-rate troops.

The following day the troops were exercised against an enemy indicated by the flag battalions already alluded to—excellent practice previous to the equal sub-division of forces. The lesson is more steady and systematic, errors can be corrected at leisure, and the necessary preparations are, of course, next to nil.

On the 17th, 18th, and 19th of September the Germans carried out their autumn manœuvres in the fullest sense and on the largest scale. The Tenth Corps was divided into two nearly equal armies, each supplied with a due proportion of cavalry, artillery, etc. The outline of the "general idea," of which Von Moltke was reported to be author, was that an Eastern army which had been concentrated for the defence of Hanover had fallen back in a south-easterly direction towards Hildesheim, on the approach of a superior force, composing the western army, from Minden. It had then received powerful reinforcements, and its object became that of assuming the offensive, dating from the 17th of September, regaining possession of Hanover, and cutting off its opponent's retreat on Minden. The aim of the West army, on the other hand, was to avoid giving battle in the immediate vicinity of Hanover, to secure its line of retreat, and by luring on its opponent to seize on a favorable opportunity for attacking him in flank. On the manner in which this scheme was carried out I do not now propose to enter, my object being to compare our own system of manœuvres with that of the Germans. At the very outset, however, it is difficult to maintain the parallel, owing to the utter dissimilarity in the features of the *terrain* in the two countries. Perhaps none but those who are familiar with this district of North Germany can realise its singular flatness, and the vast open districts unchecked for miles save by a few small woods, an occasional march, or a water-jump. The numerous banks, fences, walls, and hedges, which in England preclude troops being moved in unbroken order over the country are here unknown. Here, then, was the perfection of ground for cavalry operations, and here the cavalry brigades were constantly manœuvred against each other in masses which led to the conclusion that in practice, their officers do not endorse the theory that the days for fighting with cavalry in large bodies are over. Certainly the regiments were moved for miles at a galloping speed, and their men rode gallantly and well. I was much struck with the charge of a Hussar regiment about 500 strong, on September 19, in the neighborhood of the village of Wittenberg. They thundered across some light ploughed soil for a considerable distance at full tilt and in beautiful order, and when at last a very respectable sized ditch intervened, the whole regiment took the jump without drawing rein, and in a most sportsmanlike manner. True, the ground was instantly bestrewn with struggling horses and capsize riders, but the disorder was only momentary, and the remnant pursued their course and completed their charge.

Small detached parties were few in number, and were but little used. The traditional method of Prussian attack by infantry was this year fully maintained. Their foremost troops were composed of a thick line of skirmishers, with supports and reserves, huddled, according to our ideas, into a perpendicular depth of less than 200 yards. Short rushes were made from dip to dip in the ground, while the main body followed in unbroken march in column at varying distances of about 400 yards in rear. As the enemy's position was approached the skirmishers were reinforced—never relieved—the attacking bodies gradually closed up, and the operation was completed with a final rush and a cheer.

Of the working of Prussian artillery in the field it is difficult to speak in terms of commendation. Their equipment, which I have already described as having nothing to boast of, is moreover ill calculated to withstand the wear and tear of a campaign, and in ordinary practices breakages are constantly occurring. Though the batteries when on the move proceed at a rapid pace, there is a want of alacrity in the commanders in selecting suitable positions. This defect is probably due to their exaggerated theory concerning the concentration of an overpowering fire, which renders the major of the three batteries, corresponding to our lieutenant-colonel, unwilling to let slip any portion of his force out of his immediate control. Again it is considered very seldom necessary to furnish any special escort for the guns, the result being that through fear of capture they were frequently kept in the background, when by occupying more advanced position, they might have inflicted serious losses on the enemy.

Let me now endeavor to sum up, in all friendliness, what may honestly be considered defects in the Prussian system of manœuvres, and in doing so I can come to no other conclusion than that we have little to learn from them—that we have fallen into the habit of underrating our own standard of excellence, and that their tactical errors are more flagrant and of more frequent occurrence than ourselves. Frequently I witnessed heavy columns of infantry advancing over an open plain under the destructive fire of three or more batteries. I have seen opposing skirmishers blazing away into each other's faces within an interval of twenty yards. A brigade of cavalry in column remained quietly halted for a quarter of an hour under the fire of twelve guns, barely 600 yards distant. Batteries continued with the utmost *sang-froid* in action while infantry, from a plantation 400 yards distant, might be supposed to have picked off every single gunner. The information furnished by patrols was frequently defective, and the lines of communication were often disregarded. These errors were admitted by the Prussian officers, but were never commented upon with marked severity, though they had been committed by troops of such famous military renown.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

SECOND BRIGADE.—The yearly inspection of this command took place last week, as previously announced in orders. The Fifth Infantry led off on Monday, 12th inst., and marched into Tompkins Square at a little after 2 p. m. under command of Colonel Spencer. The regiment mustered nine equalized commands of sixteen files, and paraded in full uniform, with the pickelhaube on their heads. As it always does, the Fifth looked solid and reliable. Without the brilliant appearance and manoeuvres of more showy regiments, it is always, as of yore, steady and eminently respectable. In the first part of the ceremony of review, which immediately took place, the Fifth looked magnificent. The brass spikes and ornaments of the German helmets have an especially fine appearance in line, and the line of the Fifth was excellent. Colonel Conklin, of the Eighty-fourth, acting brigade commander, was present to receive the review, and Major Dickel, the popular brigade inspector, conducted the subsequent inspection. The passage in review was not well done, the companies losing distance, and the salutes being in many instances either slurred or neglected. Colonel Spencer forgot to open ranks and present arms at the close.

After the review, a few simple battalion movements were executed. The advance in line and plying and deploying of column were fairly executed, but the regiment shows the want of summer practice. After drill, inspection was executed and the usual fall muster. The following is the result of the muster:

	Present.	Absent.	Total.
Field and staff.....	7	0	7
Non-commissioned staff.....	7	0	7
Band.....	24	0	24
Company A.....	65	24	89
Company B.....	48	25	73
Company C.....	43	21	64
Company D.....	50	22	72
Company E.....	42	20	62
Company F.....	50	24	74
Company G.....	35	13	48
Company H.....	41	18	59
Company I.....	43	21	64
Total.....	491	185	676

At the inspection and muster of 1873, the Fifth had present 572, absent, 179; aggregate, 751. As will be seen, the regiment loses 81 in the present for duty this year, and 75 in the aggregate on roll.

On Tuesday 15th, the Sixth Infantry followed suit, parading eight companies of twelve files front. Considering that this regiment has had no armory for nearly a year, it is a wonder that it keeps together at all, and the attendance of over two hundred men under the depressing circumstances that have surrounded the regiment for so long is creditable to the men. One of two things ought to be done with this regiment. Either give it an armory and a chance, or consolidate it with the Fifth or Eleventh. A weak skeleton like the Sixth has little pride in itself, and consolidation would weed two regiments of a number of incompetent officers, retaining the few good ones. The review of the Sixth was very fairly executed, and at its close the muster and inspection revealed the following result:

	Present.	Absent.	Total.
Field and staff.....	6	2	8
Non-commissioned staff.....	5	1	6
Band.....	29	0	29
Company A.....	31	4	35
Company B.....	25	17	42
Company C.....	19	24	43
Company D.....	34	31	65
Company E.....	23	23	46
Company F.....	35	15	50
Company G.....	59	10	69
Company H.....	23	32	55
Total.....	288	159	447

In 1873 the Sixth inspected present 312, absent 179; total 491. The muster of the year shows a loss of 34 in the present, and 44 in the aggregate.

On Wednesday, 14th, the Eleventh paraded with ten commands of eight files. Taken all in all, this regiment is now about the best in the Second brigade, though by no means strong in numbers. It possesses about the best discipline of any city regiment we have seen, though its drill is by no means perfect. We do not intend to say that it is poor. On the contrary, it is good; but such regiments as the Seventh, Twelfth, and Twenty-second, excel it on that point. In the quiet obedience to orders of the men, and in their observance of respect to officers, we have seen no city regiment to compare with the men of the Eleventh, under Colonel Vilmar's rule. The regiment was reviewed by the colonel and Major Dickel, the brigade commander not being present. The review was really very well conducted, from first to last. The passage and salutes were excellent. A single file closer officer in one of the leading companies omitted to salute, but he was the only greenhorn. The rest were very good. The subsequent inspection revealed the following result:

	Present.	Absent.	Total.
Field and staff.....	5	2	7
Non-commissioned staff.....	6	0	6
Band.....	30	10	40
Company A.....	24	11	35
Company B.....	85	0	85
Company C.....	32	3	35
Company D.....	37	15	52
Company E.....	32	5	37
Company F.....	25	4	29
Company G.....	17	5	22
Company H.....	27	16	43
Company I.....	40	9	49
Company K.....	24	8	32
Total.....	337	88	425

Last year the regiment inspected 460 present, when it

was in the midst of its troubles. The loss of 123 men represents the old disturbing element. With diminished ranks the Eleventh is ten times a better regiment to-day than it was last year, and its colonel has shown himself a thorough disciplinarian.

On Friday, 15th inst., the Eighty-fourth Infantry was inspected. This regiment paraded eight companies of twelve files front, and was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Beattie. Colonel Conklin was absent, but deputized Colonel Sterry, of the Sixth, to receive the review in his place—a proceeding hardly necessary—Major Dickel, the brigade inspector, being present. We presume that Lieutenant-Colonel Beattie is not the only officer left in the Eighty-fourth competent to conduct the ceremony properly, and it certainly would have looked better to see him take the review according to regulations when the inspector is a junior. Both review and inspection were fair, but the Eighty-fourth needs battalion drill this winter to entitle it to the name of a first class command. The result of the muster was as follows:

	Present.	Absent.	Total.
Field and staff.....	6	1	7
Non-commissioned staff.....	5	1	6
Band.....	25	0	25
Company A.....	28	17	45
Company B.....	30	12	42
Company C.....	27	10	37
Company E.....	34	16	50
Company F.....	25	17	42
Company H.....	34	15	49
Company I.....	36	15	51
Company K.....	37	18	55
Total.....	287	122	409

Last year the regiment mustered 308 present, 111 absent; total 419; showing a loss of 20 present and 10 aggregate, during the past year.

The Ninety-sixth followed on Saturday, 16th, closing the fall inspections of the Second brigade for 1874. This regiment paraded fairly, and executed the ceremonies respectably. Its officers seem to be painstaking, but study in the wrong direction. An officer of militia with plenty of evenings at home has little excuse for not being perfectly conversant with the Tactics and ceremonies. The result of the muster was as follows:

	Present.	Absent.	Total.
Field and staff.....	3	2	5
Non-commissioned staff.....	6	1	7
Band.....	23	0	23
Company B.....	40	24	64
Company D.....	33	21	54
Company E.....	30	20	50
Company F.....	36	7	43
Company G.....	26	21	47
Company H.....	49	15	64
Company I.....	32	5	37
Company K.....	36	10	46
Total.....	321	136	457

Last year the regiment mustered 371 present, 130 absent; total 501. Showing a loss of 44 men in the aggregate.

The Second brigade, as revealed by this year's inspections, shows very great weakness. Were the Fifth and Sixth to be consolidated, and were the Eleventh and Ninety-sixth to follow the same fate, reducing the two colonels out of the four that are really disciplinarians, and making two real regiments out of four skeletons, the service would be greatly benefited. What the individual fancies of officers and men might be, is another question, consolidations being unpopular. The right man at the head of each could make two good regiments. As for the Eighty-fourth, while it has excellent points, it seems to be quite out of place in a brigade otherwise German. Were it to change places with the Fifty-fifth, the change would probably be a benefit to both parties, especially if the Third Cavalry were dismounted and consolidated with the Fifty-fifth. We are aware that these propositions, if seriously entertained, would raise a howl of indignation among a great many so-called officers, whose whole idea of an officer's duty is to wear a sword and epaulettes, but if the changes were made and enforced, there is little question but that the Second brigade would be something approaching nearer to an "effective force" than it is at present.

FIRST DIVISION BATTERIES.—Batteries B and K, of the First Division, were inspected on Tuesday, 13th, at Tompkins Square. Battery K was mustered in the forenoon, Battery B at 1 p. m. The former was commanded by Captain John N. Hubner, the latter by Captain John Keim. Battery K gave quite a handsome drill before inspection, going into battery and unlimbering in proper style, showing that its officers appreciate the primary importance of quickness in battery drill. Battery B as well as K was in good condition, with clean guns, caissons, and harness. We must say that the efficiency and neatness displayed in these batteries this year, and the improvement noticeable over past times, reflect great credit on the present Acting Chief of Artillery, Colonel Porter, of the Twenty-second. All that these batteries want now is a change of guns. Six-pounders went out with the close of the Mexican War, and are out of place now-a-days. If the batteries are only needed for civil service against mobs, Gatlings are their proper weapons. If they are designed for field service, they ought to have proper field guns appropriate to the latter half of the nineteenth century, and suitable for an "effective force." Six-pounders in 1874 are indefensible on any supposition, except that of use in Barnum's Hippodrome, or a battle symphony by Gilmore's band.

The personal of the batteries as inspected was as follows, Colonel Carl Jussen, of the division staff, being the mustering officer:

	Present.	Absent.	Total.
Battery B.....	91	10	101
Battery K.....	79	13	92

FIRST BRIGADE.—This command, pursuant to orders, assembled in Tompkins Square on Thursday, 15th inst., for inspection and review by Major-General Shaler, commanding First division N. G. S. N. Y. After the postponement in consequence of the rain a fine display was expected. A fine display was had, and the First brigade never looked better, or did better. The Assistant Adjutant-General formed it in line of masses exactly on time, the regiments changed direction by the left flank, and passed by division front in fine style in the following order:

Brigadier-General Wm. G. Ward and staff, correctly uniformed according to U. S. rules—a rare thing indeed among that anomalous body known as militia.

Twelfth regiment, Colonel John Ward, four divisions of sixteen files, full-dress; Sixty-ninth, Colonel James Cavanagh, three divisions of sixteen files, full-dress; Twenty-second, Lieutenant-Colonel John T. Camp, five divisions of twenty files, fatigue dress; Seventy-first, Colonel Richard Vose, five divisions of sixteen files, full-dress; and Seventy-ninth, Lieutenant-Colonel, Joseph Laing, three divisions of sixteen files, fatigue dress. The regiments looked well, three of them marched well. The Sixty-ninth and Seventy-ninth were careless, as usual on occasions of ceremony. At the close of the review a few brigade movements were made, till darkness prevented further drill.

TWENTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY.—This command, before passing to the Poughkeepsie review of the Fifth division, was mustered and inspected at Morrisania by Major Edwin F. Cole, of General Ryder's staff. Sad to say, as in many other regiments, the company officers will not take pains to read the printed directions on the top of the muster rolls, and, without exception, got them wrong. This was also the case with the Second brigade—the Eleventh regiment in particular. Militia officers, like volunteers in the last war, will manage to get rolls wrong, and for the same reason, a want of due care. It is true that there is a great mass of papers required of a militia officer, and that the system pursued in requiring them is very cumbersome, but then it is a mere bagatelle to the bother in the U. S. service, and most of the papers have reference to the security of the State property and the prevention of fraud. Three things are much needed in most militia regiments, and the man that can introduce them generally deserves a monument erected by private subscription among the employees of General Headquarters. First, is obedience; second, attention; third, common sense. These three will unravel all the imaginary snares of red tape, that ever a "sub" raved about.

The Twenty-seventh had a nice little review at Morrisania. General Ryder took the review. As he rode down the line, a venerable goose followed the general closely, rejoicing in his uniform. When the band led off the passage, the comrades of the before-mentioned goose enlisted in the Twenty-seventh, and marched with solemn pace behind the drum-major, joining in the music and beating time with their wings. The old line about soothing the savage beast with music was well exemplified. The review of the Twenty-seventh and its friends being over, the geese were left to their pastures, and the Twenty-seventh went to Mott Haven, embarked on the "Granite State," and went to Poughkeepsie. General Ryder and staff went with them. The boat was very comfortable, and even luxurious. Every man had a berth, and most had state-rooms. It forcibly reminded us, by contrast, of our old cattle cars and steerage quarters during war time. The Twenty-seventh was in clover, and proved not unworthy of its treatment. The men kept sober, obeyed orders, and behaved well. One man fell down a hatchway and broke a rib, but there were no rows, and the guard had no trouble to keep order. On the return from Poughkeepsie we accompanied the regiment, and have seldom seen one better behaved. One more accident happened at Poughkeepsie. Just after the review, a carriage horse lashed out at the passing column and kicked over a man of Company E, nearly breaking his arm and a rib. The regiment reached New York at 6 a. m. on Wednesday, 14th, and marched up Broadway about 7:30 in fine style, for the first time since its organization. There are not many city regiments that can beat it even now, and next year, if it improves as it has, the best need not blush to be brigaded with the Westchester regiment in case of need.

The muster at Mott Haven and on board the "Granite State" developed the following result at the close of the first year of the Twenty-seventh:

	Present.	Absent.	Total.
Field and staff.....	9	0	9
Non-commissioned staff.....	10	0	10
Company A.....	49	9	58
Company B.....	30	18	48
Company C.....	30	30	60
Company D.....	30	23	53
Company E.....	33	11	44
Company F.....	24	22	46
Company G.....	38	18	56
Company H.....	27	18	45
Company K.....	29	19	48
Total.....	300	168	477

POLICE BRIGADE.—On Monday, 19th inst., the Metropolitan Police drilled in Tompkins Square, under command of Superintendent Walling, who played at brigadier-general for the nonce. The gentlemen of the club were formed into a brigade of three battalions, each containing ten commands of twelve files, commanded by temporary Colonels Dukes, McDermott, and Petty. They drilled very well, and executed changes of front with perfect order. Since the heartless refusal of the Governor to give them muskets it was thought that the interest in fancy drills would die out among the police, but it seems that Commissioner Duryea hopes on. One thing is certain, that the police, so

armed, and disciplined as they now are, would be a very formidable force. Whether they might not also become a little too formidable to be safe to peaceable citizens, in the hands of—say another Tweed—is a very different question. Of their drill and discipline there is no question.

TWENTY-SECOND INFANTRY.—This regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Camp commanding, paraded ten commands of sixteen files for inspection. The ceremony of review was executed in a style unusually brilliant, even for the Twenty-second, which is always good at ceremonies. Alignments and distances were perfect, salutes generally good. A few "subs," probably new elections, did not, however, salute at all, and Drum Major Strube followed, or set them, the bad example. The regiment paraded in fatigue dress, a habit becoming far too common with the Twenty-second. Ceremonies require full dress, and a regiment coming to them in fatigue exhibits the questionable taste of a gentleman attending a ball in a morning frock. Of course it is allowable. The country is a free one. But the question of taste is by no means doubtful.

The review was taken by Colonel Porter, the proper colonel of the regiment, who is now detailed as acting chief of artillery, First division, but who also attended his regiment's inspection. The muster developed some curious questions, a number of discharged officers and soldiers answering to their names and being mustered as "veterans." The authority for this practice is said to be found in a very liberal construction of General Orders No. 13, series of 1863. We shall have more to say about this in due time, as the question is one which seriously affects the honor and integrity of a very large portion of the National Guard, and as musters of this description are perfectly valueless, as representing the real state of the National Guard. For the present suffice it to say that it seems as if, with all our care in descriptive rolls, the main design of the mustering system were constantly evaded. By mustering so-called "veterans," who surrender their discharges and agree to do ten per cent. of duty, a false idea of strength is given, and a regiment in time becomes nothing but a gigantic sham. The result of this muster, however it be viewed, is as follows:

	Present.	Absent.	Total.
Field and staff.....	7	1	8
Non-commissioned staff.....	6	0	6
Band.....	65	0	65
Company A.....	64	3	67
Company B.....	55	7	62
Company C.....	36	5	41
Company D.....	41	11	52
Company E.....	32	12	44
Company F.....	34	12	46
Company G.....	38	9	47
Company H.....	41	12	53
Company I.....	41	7	48
Company K.....	82	1	83
Total.....	542	80	622

In 1873 the regiment mustered present, 387; absent, 116. Total 503, showing a gain of 155 in the present and 119 in the aggregate this year. The new company (K) and band makes this large gain. First Lieutenant Wilmot M. Dunning has been elected captain of Company E, vice Congdon resigned; Second Lieutenant Thomas L. Miller, First Lieutenant, vice Dunning, promoted; and First Sergeant Thomas Van Loan, Second Lieutenant, vice Miller. Mr. P. E. DeMille, of Company F, is an aspirant for the vacant adjutancy.

FIRST DIVISION CAVALRY.—The Washington Grey Troop, and Klein's Separate Troop Cavalry, First division, were inspected on Tuesday, 20th inst., in the forenoon, at Tompkins Square. The Klein Troop was reviewed and inspected, mounted, and did very well. As things are at present it stands at the head of the New York militia cavalry, but needs more mounted drill. The Greys were inspected dismounted, and not reviewed. Their new captain was in command. The result of the muster by Colonel Jussen, division inspector, was as follows:

	Present.	Absent.	Total.
Klein Troop.....	50	11	61
Greys.....	44	24	68

SIXTY-NINTH INFANTRY.—This command was inspected and mustered at Tompkins Square on Tuesday, 20th inst., under command of Colonel Cavanagh. The movements were fairly executed, and the result of the muster was as follows:

	Present.	Absent.	Total.
Field and staff.....	4	3	7
Non-commissioned staff.....	5	2	7
Company A.....	38	20	58
Company B.....	21	27	48
Company C.....	44	16	60
Company D.....	35	20	55
Company E.....	38	31	69
Company F.....	46	28	74
Company G.....	31	24	55
Company H.....	35	9	44
Company I.....	35	30	65
Company K.....	39	25	64
Total.....	360	235	595

The loss from last year is fifty-one men in the aggregate, twenty-seven in the list of the present.

FIFTH DIVISION.—The parade and review of this organization took place on Tuesday, 19th inst., at Poughkeepsie, according to previously published orders. The division, as a division, badly needs consolidation. At present its actual force is composed of four so-called brigades, of which three are not entitled to the name, being composed of only a single regiment or battalion each. The other—the Seventh brigade—contains a regiment and a battalion, both derived from the "debris" of the old Third regiment, namely, the Twenty-seventh regiment and the Sixteenth battalion. The Nineteenth brigade contains a single regiment, from the

counties of Chenango and Madison, out among the western lakes, and as green as the leaves of their own woods; the Twenty-second brigade contains a single battalion—the Nineteenth, from Newburg; and the Eighth brigade is contained in the Twenty-first regiment from Poughkeepsie itself. Besides these brigades, which represent something, however contemptible in force, there are two more—the Seventeenth and Eighteenth—which have not a man on their rolls, saving and excepting two brigadier generals with full staffs. This state of things is by no means the fault of the present commander of the Fifth division, who, although a prominent politician, is also remarkably sound in his military notions, and who looks upon its existence with as much dislike as we do. But there he is, poor man, tied down to a command of five battalions and six brigadier generals, without so much as a gun, or a trooper for orderly, in his whole division. We suppose things will have to stay as they are for the present, as long as the Adjutant-General of the State continues to issue reports calling our National Guard "unequalled in any State" for "all the attributes of an effective force."

Such as it is, the Fifth division N. G. S. N. Y. is made of excellent, nay the very best, materials. Even the greenest of its commands—the One Hundred and Third—has all the same material for soldiers that was hardened into such noble regiments during the last war. There are the same decent, intelligent, self-respecting countrymen, polite to each other and good-natured to a fault, that seem such hopeless cases at first, and which yet make the best soldiers of all, when once they have unlearned their old good-natured country ways, and starchy themselves into soldiers. In these country regiments, properly officered, lies the real strength of the State, for when real need—actual war—comes, they are just the fellows that volunteer for the whole war, while the fancy city regiments consider their whole duty done when they have mounted guard for three months in an elaborate camp, inside the walls of a first class fortress.

The parade of the Fifth division at Poughkeepsie on Tuesday showed all the bad points of our National Guard system very strongly, while the excellence of the material, which is so bunglingly handled, was illustrated with equal clearness.

In addition to the five regiments or battalions which we have named, there was also present at the Poughkeepsie review a visiting command with which our city readers are familiar. This was the Forty-seventh regiment from Brooklyn, which started at 8 A. M. in the steamer "Magenta" from the pier at South Sixth street, Brooklyn, and reached Poughkeepsie in time to take part in the afternoon review at the Agricultural Fair Grounds. Our representative accompanied this regiment on the trip, being received by Colonel Austin and Adjutant Treat with a hospitality that made the journey exceedingly pleasant, in spite of the cold, damp weather and the absence of fire on the boat. This latter induced much discomfort among the poor soldiers, who were all unprovided with overcoats, although a component part of the Adjutant-General's reported "effective force." After a long and tedious journey, however, the haven was reached, and the Forty-seventh disembarked and marched up the steep hill, common to all North River towns, toward the Fair Ground. This turned out to be some miles off, and was only reached after a long tramp over poorly paved streets and country roads. Once there, the ground was found to be principally one of "magnificent possibilities." The only actualities were a fence, a mile track running round a swamp, a grand stand, and a judge's stand. In the swamp the regiments were supposed to be stationed. Actually, there was only dry standing room for them on the track, and there they were, a quarter of a mile off from the reviewing stand, drawn up in line by (suppositions) brigades. The Forty-seventh was assigned to the Eighth brigade, and swelled it at once into very respectable proportions. Then came a long weary time of waiting for the review, which was to have been held at 2 o'clock, but which was delayed till after 4 by various circumstances, especially the non-arrival of the Governor. The interval was employed, however, to very good advantage by the troops, for the citizens of Poughkeepsie had provided them with a free dinner, reminding us forcibly of the old hospitable welcomes extended at Philadelphia to the passing regiments of volunteers, and remnants of the same old hearty and patriotic spirit. The crowd on the grand stand and at its foot must have numbered over ten thousand people, and the efforts of two companies of the One Hundred and Third regiment to clear them away were entirely futile for some time, the crowd playing with them, and the good-natured countrymen being imposed upon in a style that worried them beyond endurance. Our representative was able to secure a place in the judge's stand, opposite the reviewing stand, by the courtesy of Colonel Parker, of General Husted's staff, and had a good view of the whole proceedings, including the uproarious crowd and puzzled guards. At last the Governor arrived, and the review commenced. On account of the swampy ground and the narrowness of the track a line of masses was impracticable, and the review line was therefore very long. At last the ceremony began, as General Husted presented his command. There was no ride round the line, the ceremony being confined to a simple passage, which was executed in the following order:

First, Major-General James W. Husted, commanding Fifth division, and followed by his staff, headed by Colonel Parker, chief of staff. The general looked neat and jaunty, as he always does on horseback, for he sits well. His staff are also exceptionally quiet and neat, in the simple U. S. uniform, without the epaulettes affected by so many militia officers. Second, Brigadier-General James W. Ryder, Seventh

brigade, followed by his staff, headed by Lieutenant-Colonel Bedell.

The Twenty-seventh regiment, ten commands of fourteen files, and Sixteenth battalion, four commands of twenty files, followed in the order named, composing the brigade, and commanded by Colonel Underhill and Major McFarlane, respectively. Besides being the strongest, the Seventh brigade is certainly the best in the division. Both regiments composing it were well up to the city standard, excepting a few of the very best organizations, and reflect great credit on their commanders. The passage of the Sixteenth was faultless, salutes, marching, dressing, and appearance. That of the Twenty-seventh was only marred by a slight unsteadiness in the left of a single company. Salutes were all good.

The Twenty-second brigade followed, commanded by Brigadier-General W. R. Brown, and consisting of the Nineteenth battalion, six commands of twelve files. General Brown and staff looked decidedly aged, and the Nineteenth battalion was only passable. Salutes, both of officers and colors were wretched. In fact there were only three commands that drooped their colors in passing, the Twenty-seventh, Sixteenth, and Forty-seventh.

Brigadier-General George Beach appeared next, tottering on the brink of the grave, at all events old enough to know how to do better than he did, for he and his whole staff passed at a non-commissioned officer's salute. Then came Poughkeepsie's pride, the Twenty-first regiment, with seven commands of eighteen files, commanded by Colonel James Smith. While one or two companies marched fairly, the rear ones were horrible, the salutes as bad as well could be, and the regiment passed, principally, at a right shoulder arms. One or two captains hurriedly came to a carry, right in front of the reviewing stand.

Next came Colonel Austin with the Forty-seventh, doing things in style; officers saluting with same dash and vim, as if they meant it, and the companies marching well. Their officers' salutes, as a whole, were the best on the ground, but the Sixteenth was the most faultless, taking all the companies together.

Next came Brigadier-General Lewis A. Rhodes, who passed with his staff in a manner not deserving any special censure, nor any special praise—well enough as "mildish" generals go; and last of all came the long suffering One Hundred and Third, "all that was left of them, left of six hundred." They had enough to make eight commands of ten files, and they struggled by about as badly as a regiment could pass, with the colors in the third company. How they got there heaven knows—some officers saluting, some not, a regular green country regiment, only redeemed from being a mob by the serious, earnest faces of the men and their evident struggles to do right. With proper officers this regiment might be made excellent, for its material is splendid, as good as that of the Twenty-seventh and Sixteenth. All it wants is good officering, and there are only two ways to get that, either for the present inefficient lot to resign for the good of their regiment, or to study up the profession which they now encumber. We look to General Husted to do for the Nineteenth, Twenty-first, and One Hundred and Third, what he has already done for the Sixteenth and Twenty-seventh. Then, if the next Legislature will only wipe out four of his six brigades, and district those so as to render them easily concentrable, the Fifth division may lay claim in another year to possessing in reality the "attributes of an effective force."

TWENTY-EIGHTH INFANTRY.—A correspondent informs us that the officers and ex-officers of this command recently celebrated their annual reunion at Schneider's Schutzen Park, Astoria, under the leadership of Captain George Koch, of the Governor's staff. The marksmen assembled at the residence of Colonel Burger where the preliminaries having been arranged the party proceeded in open barouches to the trial ground and tested their skill. The following is the score:

Names.	200 yards.	Tot.	Championship score.
Lieutenant Miller.....	2 2 3 3 4-13	2	2
Lieut.-Col. Obernier.....	2 3 4 4 4-17	3	3
Captain Wandelt.....	2 2 2 3 3-12	2	2
General Dakin.....	4 4 4 4 4-20	4	4
Major Thompson.....	0 0 3 2 3-8	4	4
Captain Heerd.....	3 2 4 4 4-17	4	4
Major Karcher.....	0 0 0 0 2-2	0	0
Surgeon Groux.....	3 2 2 3 3-12	3	3
Lieutenant Theyx.....	3 2 4 3 4-16	2	2
Lieutenant Illig.....	4 3 4 4 4-19	4	4
Captain Koch.....	3 3 4 4 4-18	0	0
Colonel Burger.....	3 2 4 4 4-17	3	3
Major Willis.....	0 3 4 3 4-14	0	0

After mutual congratulations between the successful competitors, the party, accompanied by several lady friends, who, of course, lent enchantment to the occasion, proceeded to supper. Toasts, speeches, and sentiment followed, and at a late hour in the evening the party returned to their homes all pleased with the day's enjoyment.

THE CREEDMOOR CONTESTS.—The Executive Committee of the National Rifle Association met on Wednesday evening at No. 7 West Thirteenth street, to consider the disputes affecting the scores of the Twenty-second and Seventy-ninth regiments in the match of the 1st inst. Considerable testimony was heard, and the committee disallowed the scores of Drum Major G. H. Strube, of the Twenty-second, and Private W. Keiler, of the Seventy-ninth. The conduct of Drum Major Strube was declared discreditable, and he was disqualified from participating in future contests of the Association. The committee found on examination that Jeremiah Irwin, of the Seventy-ninth, had shot at the wrong target, and they appointed next Wednesday, at 4 P. M., as the day and hour for hearing his case. As matters now stand the Seventy-ninth leads the score, a deduction of eleven having been made from their score, reducing it to 195, and eleven from that of the Twenty-second, reducing it to 185. The Twelfth stands at 191.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

—THE Third Cavalry was inspected dismounted on Thursday, 22d inst. at noon. Full particulars next week.

—THE Twelfth was inspected and mustered in the afternoon of the 22d inst. Full particulars next week.

—CAPTAIN LOUIS PLOMBER of the Fifth, and Captain Heh of the Fifty-fifth, have left the service of the State.

—LIEUTENANTS G. HAUMANN and Theodore Doench of Battery K, First division, have passed the Board safely.

—COMPANY I and H of the Twenty-third, have voted to con-

solidate into a single company, and await the requisite permission to execute the change.

— COLONEL GILSON returns commission of Lieutenant Louis Picon, who failed to qualify on examination. Bravo, colonel. We wish that every colonel could turn out incapables in the same way. We might have a real National Guard in time, instead of the present delusion.

— THE only brigade in the First division that has sent in the quarterly returns due September 30, is the Second. This shows well for its regimental commanders, and is worthy of great praise, especially as contrasted with the inexcusable neglect of the First and Third brigades to perform their plain duty in the premises.

— NEITHER the Klein Troop nor the Grays paraded with carbines, as they had not yet drawn slings. This shows decided carelessness on the part of commanders. They could have got them from General Knox months ago, had they made regulation, for the present chief of ordnance is always remarkably quick to fill requisitions.

— THE Old Guard turned out for its annual parade on Wednesday, 21st inst., meeting at the Astor House, and parading, with a full band in brigadier-general's uniform, up Broadway in the afternoon. The corps turned out strong, and the bearskin cap suited the veterans it covered, for the Old Guard contains a good many real veterans. Next week we hope to treat more fully of the parade for 1874.

— TO offset the losses by resignation, the Fifty-fifth gains by appointment, Surgeon G. R. Morse, and the First battalion gains Lieutenants J. Martins Picabia and E. J. Bourke; the Eleventh gains by election Captains William Hauser and Joseph Fochler, and Lieutenant Julius Wollaber; the Eighty-fourth D. H. Lamport, second Lieutenant, and the Fifth Lieutenant Craft.

— CAPTAIN LORENZO BAKER of the Grays, has passed the Board in triumph. So much for not being too proud. Now we hope to see the Troop progress, and make itself into real cavalry. If they and the Klein Troop will run a race towards perfection, no one will be happier to record the struggle than the crusty volunteer cavalryman who is just now so unpopular with the play soldiers who occasionally read the JOURNAL.

— THE Seventy-first paraded for inspection on Wednesday, 21st inst., in fatigue uniform, in Tompkins Square, nominally at 3 p. m. The regiment was late, the ceremony slow, and the inspection and muster were not half through at 5 p. m., when we left the ground. The regiment looked and behaved as it always does—unexceptionably. It is an excellent specimen of the self-respecting native American regiment. In drill it is rusty, however. The guides are poorly instructed, and lose distance very noticeably. A study of Fairchild's Manual would do them a great deal of good. On account of our early hour of going to press, we are compelled to lay over the full account and result of muster of this regiment till next week.

CONNECTICUT.

A HARTFORD correspondent writes us that a rapidly growing interest in target practice exists throughout this State. The companies are taking heed of the matter in earnest, and have been doing some good work this season. The Second regiment hold their second annual shoot in New Haven on Tuesday, the 27th inst. A team of commissioned officers of the First will be present and shoot against a picked team from the Second regiment. Any rifle will be allowed; position, standing; shooting off-hand; distance, 300 yards. A good record is expected from both teams. The State arm, Peabody rifles, amounts to but little in rifle practice, and the trials of this and last year are not very favorable to the accuracy of the weapon. The pull of the trigger varies greatly in different guns, and considerable dissatisfaction with them is expressed in military circles. The Third regiment C. N. G., and the Governor's Foot Guard, two companies, carry the Springfield breech-loaders. As the Third have done nothing at target practice we cannot say how they like their guns.

Of the First regiment, Company F (Hartford City Guard), Captain White, hold their shoot on the 18th inst.; Company G, of Manchester, Captain Hudson, shot on the 14th; Company C, of Rockville, on the 16th; and Company B are to shoot on the 22d. The latter company is the Hillyer Guard, who recently won the championship of the C. N. G. in a drill with the Saratogs, of New Haven. They are fair marksmen, and pretty good scores will probably be shown. The six last scores of Company G, of Manchester, are as follows:

	300 yards.
Corporal Jas. Loomis.....	0 4 4 2 3-13
Private W. H. Cheney.....	2 2 4 2 2-13
Private J. W. Shrewry.....	3 4 2 0 3-11
Private A. H. Prutting.....	3 2 0 2 4-10
Corporal A. B. Keney.....	4 2 2 0 2-10
Private T. S. Cadman.....	0 0 4 4 2-10

The Hillyers are to shoot at 300 and 500 yards—those scoring over eight, being allowed to shoot at the latter distance.

THE surgeon-general of the State has issued orders in accordance with section 5 of the military laws of the State, defining what disabilities shall exempt men from militia duty.

CAPTAIN E. M. PARKER, of Company H, First regiment Light Guard, (Hartford) has resigned, and Lieutenant B. F. Welles will probably be his successor.

SINCE Captain J. N. Bacon has been in command of the Light Guard, Company E, Second C. N. G., fifty-seven privates have received their discharge, and forty-two new men have been received into the company.

THE First regiment (Colt's armory) band, have decided to purchase a new uniform, and have arranged with Boylan and Co., for their manufacture. The uniform selected is composed of a scarlet coat richly trimmed with gold lace, angilettes, and fancy shoulder knots, and pantaloons of dark blue cloth with broad gold stripes. The cap has not been decided, but will be different from and handsomer than those now worn.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

HOUSTON, TEXAS, September 30, 1874, writes: "Will you please let me know how the steam frigate *Mississippi* was destroyed during the war?" Answer.—She grounded in passing the Port Hudson batteries, and was burned by her officers to prevent her falling into the enemy's hands, March 14, 1863.

H. J. S., Dayton, Ohio, September 30, 1874, writes us: "Please answer the following questions in your next issue and you will oblige an ex-sergeant of cavalry (volunteer). 1. If not now, about how soon, will recruiting begin for General Mounted Service or Cavalry, in Regular Army of U. S.? 2. What are the titles of the various non-commissioned officers, their pay and rank (of cavalry)? 3. Are persons enlisted to do duty as clerks, writing, and the like: if so, what pay do they receive? 4. Are married men accepted as recruits, and between what ages must the recruit be? 5. Is there a chance for a private to obtain a commission, if he, by his conduct, merits one?" Answer.—1. The time is uncertain. Watch the JOURNAL, and the order will be published in due time. 2. The titles are the same as during the war; the pay two or three dollars per grade lower. 3. No. 4. No, and between 18 and 40. 5. Very little in time of peace.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

M. DE LESSEPS' plan of joining the Mediterranean at Gabes with the long string of lakes leading to the south of Algeria is likely to drop. An eminent French engineer, who has lately visited the spot, reports that the lakes are higher than the sea, and a canal would simply drain them; furthermore, if the plan were feasible, it would cost £12,000,000 sterling, on which there would be no adequate return.

WITHIN six years, on the coast of Canada, ninety-eight new lighthouses have been built, four new lightships established, and ten new steam fog-alarms; forty-eight more lighthouses, eight fog-alarms, and two lightships are in process of construction. By the aid of Canadian petroleum oil these are maintained at a cheaper rate than in any other country in the world. Ninety thousand gallons of oil were required for the service last year, which was obtained by contracts at 21c. per gallon, or about 10 1-2d.

THE German Government, according to the London Times Berlin correspondent, are preparing a bill providing for the embodiment in time of war of all able-bodied men no longer included in the line, the reserve, or the landwehr. They are to form a separate force called the landsturm, and will be summoned only in case of need. Probably the steady increase of the French and Russian armies, either of which is likely to outnumber the German forces ten years hence, suggested the new measure.

THE great project, undertaken some years since, of tunnelling the Mersey so as to connect all the docks, railways, and canals on both sides of the river is once more occupying attention in Liverpool. It is admitted by those who have given attention to the subject that a tunnel under the Mersey would be of immense value, and in its effects create an almost semi-revolution in the trade of the port. Engineering testimony is altogether favorable to the project, while the investigations of geologists made with regard to the special borings necessary to the success of the scheme indicate an absence of any serious obstacle between Birkenhead and Liverpool.

RENEWED activity, says the correspondent of the London Post, is visible in the German navy after the Emperor's recent visit to Kiel, and the distinction conferred upon General von Stosch, the administrative head of the force. German papers announce reforms and extensions of various kinds to be projected. The first to be taken in hand is the extension of the torpedo service, and the construction of a fresh number of torpedo boats, those now in use having proved an undoubted success. The ordinary allowance made for the navy in the annual budget will not, it is stated, suffice for the proposed enlargement of the force, and it is predicted that the next navy estimates will afford matter for lively discussion, inasmuch as not only is a material augmentation projected, but no other means being disposable, it is also thought that recourse will have to be had to the nation's credit for raising the necessary funds.

THE Volunteer Service Gazette of London of Oct. 3d says: "We have prophesied long since that if the citizens of the United States took to long-range rifle shooting, they would be not unlikely to become formidable adversaries. But we must say that we did not anticipate that, after somewhat less than a year's practice, the States would be able to produce a small-bore team which would not only beat (though it be by a small majority) a crack squad of Irishmen, but would do it with a score which has, in the competition for the Elcho Shield, never been approached. And yet, according to the telegram, this is what has happened. By the exertions of Major Leech and others, a first-rate Irish team has gone over, as our readers know, to shoot with an American team on the conditions of the match for the Elcho Shield, except that there were only six men instead of eight on each side. We can only heartily congratulate both the Americans and the Irish upon their magnificent shooting, and express our earnest hope that we shall have a team from the United States to give us our revenge at Wimbledon next July.

AT the last experimental attack on the *Oberon* by a stationary torpedo, at 50 ft. distance, an addition was made to the programme which was of considerable interest. Swedish officers are watching the English gun-cotton experiments upon the double bottom built upon the *Oberon*, and English officers are watching at Carlscrona the dynamite and other explosive experiments being made there upon a double bottom, also representing, like the English *Oberon*, the double bottom of the *Hercules*. One portion of the Swedish experiments has shown that a mine of dynamite fired in the course of experiments at a distance of 100 ft. from two other unconnected mines has exploded the latter simply by concussion. To apply this test to gun-cotton, therefore, at the *Oberon* experiment, two mines were laid diagonally away from the vessel and the mine to be fired against her, and of course, as with the Swedish dynamite experiment, having no connection with the mine to be fired. One of these mines was laid at a distance of 106 ft. from the mine to be fired, and consisted of 100 lbs. of the Waltham Abbey disc gun-cotton in a service mine case, with the cotton saturated with about 30 per cent. of fresh water. The other mine was simply 50 lbs. of the cotton placed in a piece of fishing net stuff at a distance of 120 ft. from the mine

to be fired against the ship. These mines lay on a bed of soft mud of from 3 ft. to 4 ft. in depth, and at about 100 ft. from each other, both mines held down upon or in the mud by iron ballast. They were not exploded by the firing of the principal mine. Possibly, had the cotton been dry and laid upon a hard in lieu of a soft bed the result might have been different. That, however, remains a very interesting subject to solve by future experiment.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—"It seems a strange complaint to hear from so military-minded a nation as the French have been long esteemed, yet according to the *Journal des Sciences Militaires* there is not to be found in the language a single trustworthy work on modern tactics. The French essayist we are following expressly excludes the various translations lately made at Paris of German books as too heavy to be natural and proper reading for his countrymen. There are plenty of French volumes, nominally on tactics, but they are either controversial or, like Favé's work, devoted mainly to a single arm. Okounof's, Dufour's, and Giustiniani's books are all written in French, and well known in France; but being composed for Russian, Swiss, and Piedmontese officers respectively, they have their national specialities to deal with, and are therefore not suitable handbooks for the thousands of French military students who want a guide. Rüstow, the voluminous Swiss military writer, has of course a book on the subject; but, though published nominally in 1873, it deals with no experience so late as that of the last war, and is therefore thoroughly unsatisfactory. The essayist can find nothing out of Germany really so suitable for present wants as Major Ottolenghi's new Italian work in two volumes, which, however, needs translation before it can be made available. That this complaint is well founded is just now curiously illustrated at the French autumn manoeuvres. The existing skirmishing practice, for instance, is conducted on regulations so incomplete that General Ducrot has found it necessary to supplement them for his own corps by a pamphlet of over a hundred pages long. This deficiency, now first acknowledged publicly in France, may surprise many persons; but it is certain that the practice carried on at Chalons just before the war was conducted on certain "secret instructions" which were known to the few foreigners who had read them to be not merely completely out of date for troops carrying breech-loaders, but to have been prepared and kept unaltered from the smooth-bore musket period of the Grand Army of Napoleon I., which was the model for all things military under the Second Empire."

THE London *Army and Navy Gazette* takes substantially the same ground we have held, as to the lessons of the experiments with fixed torpedoes, against the *Oberon*. Our London contemporary says: "We, therefore, unhesitatingly pronounce the torpedo attack upon the *Oberon*, so far as regards the destructive power of torpedoes at these distances, to be a complete failure. There are, of course, further experiments to be made with 500-pound charges in closer proximity to the vessel, and it is possible that at twenty feet nearer, these charges may have a greatly increased shattering effect; but then it should be remembered that, when we approach within thirty feet of a vessel, we enter the radius to which an ordinary 'cradle' might easily be made to extend. Such a cradle surrounding a ship of war to a distance of thirty feet would pick up, one after another, the circuit-closers of all torpedoes that were planted within this radius, and would fire the latter at a distance which would render their action perfectly innocuous. It might be constructed of exceeding lightness, so as to impede as little as possible the movements of the vessel to which it was attached. Circuit-closers invariably float upon the surface, being secured by chains to the iron cases or "mines" beneath, the whole being anchored to mushroom 'sinks'; hence the cradle need only sweep the surface of the water to destroy with comparative ease an entire system of torpedoes. But another point has to be considered, which raises a very great difficulty. Some twelve months ago a number of experiments were tried at Stokes Bay to ascertain 'the relative distances at which 500-pound charges of gun-cotton and other combustibles might be exploded in submarine mines without firing one another spontaneously.' It was then ascertained that 100 feet was certainly not a sufficient distance to leave between them, without danger of their mutual ignition. But we have been driven to the conclusion by the result of the experiments now pending, that a torpedo may explode harmlessly within 100 feet of an ordinary ironclad, so that practically it is impossible to lay down such submarine obstructions in any position near enough to be hurtful—irrespective of cradles—a positive certainty existing that the firing of one mine would explode all others contiguous to it."

CAPTAIN NOBLE and Mr. Abel have come to a definite stage with their experimental researches into the action of fired gunpowder, and have embodied their conclusions in a report in the proceedings of the Royal Society. Their objects they state to have been:—(1) To ascertain the products of explosion when fired in guns and mines; (2) to investigate the tension; (3) the effect of various sizes of grain; (4) the variation caused by various conditions of pre-

sure, comparing explosion in a closed vessel with that in the bore of a gun; (5) the volume of permanent gas; (6) the heat; (7) to ascertain the work performed on a shot in the bore of a gun. For this very careful experiments were carried out to ascertain the pressure, volume of permanent gas, heat, and analysis of gases and solid products. A vessel of mild steel, tempered in oil, was used, completely closed with a closely-fitting screw firing plug, through which were led circuit wires with fine platinum wire enclosed with mealed powder, which it fired when heated by the current of a Daniell battery. The results were briefly as follows:—The pressure was registered by Captain Noble's crusher gauges at from 1 ton to 36 tons per square inch. The analysis of the gaseous products showed a regular change, due to variation in pressure, carbonic anhydride increasing, with a decrease in carbonic oxide as the pressure increased. The solid products were subject to greater and less regular variation; speaking generally, the chemical action is more complicated than has been supposed, and the old fundamental equations are found to represent it very imperfectly. More carbonic oxide and potassium carbonate, and less potassium sulphate than has been thought is produced. Potassium sulphide is thought to be formed primarily, but eventually it is not present in any considerable quantity, having given place to potassium hyposulphite. The temperature of explosion is found by means of platinum wire or foil to be about 2200 deg. C. About 85 per cent. of the heat generated is communicated to a small arm, and but 3 per cent. to an 18-ton gun. The products of explosion consist of about fifty-seven parts by weight of solid to forty-three of permanent gas. When the powder fills the space in which it is fired the pressure is about 6400 atmospheres, or 42 tons per square inch. The products of explosion generally are the same in a gun and in a completely closed vessel. The work on the projectile is due to the elastic pressure of the permanent gases. These results have only been obtained by a long and laborious course of very carefully conducted experiments. They are very valuable, and such as but very few individuals have the means of carrying out.

THE London *Army and Navy Gazette* of Sept. 26 says: The 1873 model Springfield rifle which has been adopted by the United States' Government was on Tuesday tried over various distances at the City of London ranges at Rainham. The cartridges, which are made of very thick copper, and are evidently intended to be used after more than one refilling, are in shape and size very like what is known as Westley Richards' ammunition No. 2, but they have no cap piece, and the detonation is simply filled into the copper tube before the powder, and the outside of the case is then "bit" on two sides to assist in retaining it. The bullet has three deep and wide cannelures, which contain an excessive quantity of lubrication, consisting of white wax and tallow. The length of the bullet is, roughly speaking, 2 1-2 diameters, the bore of the rifle being .45, and the projectiles do not appear to be compressed, but, judging from their roughness, to be simply cast of very soft lead. The charge of powder is 70 grains, and the bullet weighs 405 grains—these amounts respectively being about one-sixth less than the charge of the Martini-Henry rifle; and the powder is both much smaller in the grain and of commoner manufacture than the recognised No. 6 large rifle grain powder authorised for use in the Boxer-Henry cartridges—this, in combination with the excessive

lubrication, making the weapon very dirty in use. The firing yesterday left no doubt that the gun shoots fairly well at distances from 300 to 800 yards, but the failing light at the latter range did not allow of the formation of any accurate opinion as to the capacity in such a gun of the light bullet and light charge—a point of great importance now that the controversy about the Martini-Henry has assumed such proportions. So far as could be judged, however, there was precisely the amount of unsteadiness that was anticipated from the description of the ammunition before any of it was seen; but on this point, of course, a definite statement cannot be made and must be left until another opportunity. There was a notable absence of recoil in the gun, but as the stock is hollowed out to fit the arm, at the higher ranges the heel of the stock is liable to hurt the muscles of the shoulder, and no amount of firmness in holding seemed to overcome this evil until the butt was shifted from the shoulder on to the arm, and then the shape of the stock prevented any evil effects from the recoil. Americans fire more from the arm than we do, and the hollowing out of the butt may, therefore, suit their mode of shooting. A further and more thorough trial will be made in a few days, and the result will then be duly published. Meanwhile it may be said that the brief experience of Tuesday does not invalidate any of the *prima facie* objections made to the rifle at Wimbledon, and that the gun is from two or three degrees over-sighted, except at the 300 yards, where it is undersighted. Indeed, the manufacture of the weapon in both lock and back sight leaves very much to be desired.

SOME interesting experiments, says the London *Army and Navy Gazette*, are to be made at Woolwich Dockyard, with a view of ascertaining the likelihood, or otherwise, of an important influence being exerted upon electrical wires for firing torpedoes when placed *in situ*, owing to the "inductive effects" produced by a thunderstorm. The serious consequences of inductive discharges of atmospheric electricity, passing along ordinary telegraphic wires during a violent storm of thunder and lightning, and entering a needle instrument unprovided with a "protector," have been too often dilated on to require lengthened comment. Suffice it to say that, on all occasions when considerable electrical disturbance of the atmosphere prevails, a certain amount of extraneous electrical action is set up in the naked suspended telegraphic wires of the locality in which the storm is raging. The danger of the telegraphic instrument being destroyed under such circumstances has, however, been obviated by the application of protectors, which are contrived as follows:—In the "circuit" of ordinary insulated wire a small portion of very fine wire is introduced wound on a drum, or otherwise secured within a small insulated cylinder. At one end of this fine wire and communicating with it is a metal discharger having fine points at its edge; and immediately opposite to these points near, but not touching, is another piece of metal with a row of similar points. This second piece of metal has a wire attached to it, communicating with and leading away into the earth. The action of the protector is thus:—The ordinary electrical current from the battery runs along the wires, passing through the fine wire in its circuit, but not bringing the points alluded to, thence proceeding on its way to the leading instrument; but when a flash of lightning induces a violent current in the large wire, it rushes along, fuses the fine wire, and then, the circuit being broken, it springs across the points of the discharger

and disappears in the ground. Thus the instrument is saved. Other plans have also been adopted to carry off the discharge innocuously without the fusion of the fine wire, which, of course, for the time being, arrests the working of the reading or recording instrument. But the wire portion of a torpedo "circuit" has always consisted of an insulated copper core buried in the ground or laid in water. Hence it was presumed to be perfectly secure from the dangers which surrounded naked and suspended wires, the earth itself having been pronounced by the greatest electricians to be "a most perfect insulator." So great, indeed, has been the feeling of security, that it was considered unnecessary to employ protectors with torpedo apparatus. Now, however, the question has been raised as to the possibility of a system of torpedoes being suddenly and unexpectedly discharged by an induced electrical current during a thunderstorm, and it has been determined to submit the matter to experimental test. With this object in view, ten miles of copper wire insulated with india-rubber has been buried in the dockyard, the firing instruments and batteries ordinarily used for torpedo purposes and several galvanometers being placed in circuit with it, so that if any electrical impression is made by a thunderstorm upon this subterranean wire, its effects may be noted in the clearest possible manner. At the same time we may observe that many scientific officers who are interested in the progress of the experiments, anticipate that no inductive influences will be exerted upon the circuit. Nevertheless this remains to be proved.

SILVER PRESENTATION GIFTS.

THE Gorham Company, the well known silver-smiths of No. 1 Bond street, New York, offer the richest and largest assortment of choice articles in silver for wedding and presentation gifts and general family use to be found in the country. They were the designers and manufacturers of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL prize cup presented at Creedmoor, and various prizes offered by the National Rifle Association, and the resources of their large establishment enable them to furnish regiments, companies or other organizations, at the shortest notice, with presentation pieces of silver modeled from special designs appropriate to the occasion.

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MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages FIFTY CENTS each, and the size and address of the party sending should accompany the notice.]

PLATE—MIENER.—At Camp Gaston, California, September 30th, 1874, by the Rev. J. S. Thompson, of Christ's Church, Eureka, California, K. H. PLATE, of San Francisco, and Miss MINNIE HOWARD, eldest daughter of Col. Henry R. Mizner, U. S. Army.

DIED.

Brief announcements will be inserted under this head without charge. Obituary notices and resolutions should be paid for at the rate of two cents a word, unless it is intended to leave the question of their insertion to the discretion of the Editor.

ESKIDGE.—At Fort D. A. Russell, W. T., October 12, 1874, HAZARD STEVENS, youngest son of Captain R. L. and Sue Eskridge, aged 7 months.

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